SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1903.

(ESTABLISHED 1881.)

就六十月二十英游香 六拜禮

\$30 PER ANNUM. SINGLE COPY, 10 CENTS.

#### Banks.

YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED.			
ESTABLISHED 1880.	•		
CAPITAL SUBSCRIBEDYe	24,000,000		
RESERVE FUND	6,000,000		

Head Office: -YOKOHAMA. Branches and Agencies. KOBE. LUKI**O**. NAGASAKL LONDON. 'NEW YORK SAN FRANCISCO. HONOLULU. BOMBAY: SHANGHAL NEWCHWANG. TIENTSIN.

PEKING. LONDON BANKERS: THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK, LD. PARRS' BANK, LD. THE UNION OF LONDON AND SMITHS BANK, LD.

HUNGKONG BRANCH :-- INTEREST ALLOWED. On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per Annum on the Daily Balance. On fixed deposits for 12 months at 5 percent,

TARO HODSUMI, Manager. Hosekong, fith September, 1903.

ONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, RESERVE FUND.--Silver Reserve .....\$ 6,000,000 \$16,000,000 RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPTORS. \$10,000,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS: A. J. RAYMOND, Esq., Chairman. H. E. TOMKINS, Esq., Deputy Chairman. Hon. C. W. Dickson. | N. A. Siebs, Esq. E. Goetz, Esq. H. W. Slade, Esq. C. Michelau, Esq. C. A. Tomes, Esq. E. S. Whealler, Esq. H. Schubart, Esq. E. Shellim, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER: Hongkong-J. R. M. SMITH. MANAGER: Shanghai-H. M. BEVIS.

LUNION BANKERS-LONDON AND COUNT. BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED. HUNGKONG-INTEREST ALLOWED: On Jurent Account at the rate of 2 per Cent. per Annum on the daily balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS: For 3 months, 21 per Cent. per Annum. For 6 months, 3 per Cent. per Annum. For 12 months, 4 per Cent. per Annum. R. M. SMITH,

Chief Manager. Hongkong, 17th August, 1903. HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK. I HE Business of the above Bank is conducted

bythe HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be obtained on application. INTEREST on deposits is allowed at 3 PER CENT. per annum.

Depositors may transfer at their option balances of \$100 or more to the HONGKONGANI SHANGHAI BANK to be placed on FIXED DEPOSIT at 4 PER CENT. per annum. For the Hongkong and Shanghai BANKING CORPORATION, J. R. M. SMITH,

Chief Manager. Hongkong, 1st May, 1902. THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA,

LIMITED. HEAD OFFICE:-HONGKONG.

Board of Directors:-Chan Kit Shan, Esq. | J. Scott Harston, Esq. Chow Tung Shang, Esq. | J. Lauts, Esq. Chief Manager, GEO. W. F. PLAYFAIR. Interest for 12 months Fixed ..... 5 %

TEUTSCH ASIATISCHE BANK. PAID-UP CAPITAL .....Sh. Taels 5,000,000 HEAD OFFICE—SHANGHAI.

Hongkong, 12th May, 1903.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: BERLIN. BRANCHES: Hankow Calcutta Tsingtau (Kiautschou) Tientsin

LONDON BANKERS: Messrs. N. M. ROTHSCHILD & SONS, Union of London and Smiths Bank, Ltd. DEUTSCHE BANK (BERLIN), LONDON AGENCY DIRECTION DER DISCONTO GESELLSCHAFT.

INTEREST allowed on Current Account. learned on application. Every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted. . H. FIGGE, Manager.

Hongkong, 1st September, 1903.

TO LET. NTO. 1, RIPON TERRACE in FLATS.

No. 4. RIPON TERRACE. No. 15, Wong Net Chong Road, ficing Race Course. FLATS in Moneton Terrace, facing

Polo Ground. OFFICES in course of erection, Con-NAUGHT ROAD (near BLAKE PIER). GODOWN No. 34, BLUE BUILDINGS, G JDOWNS: PRAYA EAST.

THE HONGKONG LAND INVEST MENT & AGENCY CO., LD. Hangkang, 1st December, 1903.

# NEW YORK

(AMERICAN BANK). Established 1864.

U.S. Gold PAID UP CAPITAL .....\$2,000,000 SURPLUS AND UNDIVIDED PROFITS.\$5,180,000 Gold \$7,180,000 Head Office-NEW YORK. LONDON OFFICE: 33 and 35, Lombard Street, E.C. F. C. Bishop, Manager, Eastern Department LUNDON BANKERS: PARR'S BANK, LIMITED. HONGKONG OFFICE:

4, DES VŒUX ROAD. General Banking and Exchange business runsucted. INTEREST ALLOWED . On Current Accounts at 2% per annum. On Fixed Deposits:

For 3 months 21% per annum. Acting Manager.

#### NTERNATIONAL BANKING CORPORATION.

Hongkong, 1st December, 1902.

GOLD \$7,992,173.37=about £1,640,000. CAPITAL AND SURPLUS AUTHORISED GOLD \$10,000,000 = £2,055,000.

HEAD OFFICE: 1, WALL STREET, NEW YORK. LONDON OFFICE: THREADNEEDLE HOUSE, E.C.

BRANCHES AT SAN FRANCISCO, WASHINGTON, MEXICO, MANILA, SHANGHAI, SINGA-PORE, YOKOHAMA, BOMBAY, CALCUTTA

AND AGENTS ALL OVER THE WORLD. LONDON AND CONTINENTAL BANKERS:

NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK OF ENGLAND, LIMITED, Union of London and Smith's Bank, Ltd. CREDIT LYONNAIS, DRESDNER BANK, COMPTOIR, NATIONAL D'ESCOMPTE DE PARIS, &C.

THE Corporation transacts every Descrip-L tion of Banking and Exchange Business, receives Money in Current Account and issues Fixed Deposit Receipts either in Gold or Silver at Rates which may be ascertained on [13] Application.

> Hongkong Branch: 20, DES VŒUX ROAD CENTAL. CHARLES R. SCOTT, Manager. Hongkong, 14th December, 1903.

#### IMPERIAL BANK OF CHINA. ESTABLISHED BY IMPERIAL DECREE

OF THE 12TH NOVEMBER, 1896. Shanghai Taels. SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL ..... 5,000,000 PAID-UP CAPITAL ..... 2,500,000 Head Office: SHANGHAI.

> Branches and Agencies. CANTON. PENANG. SINGAPORE. CHEFOO. HANKOW. TIENTSIN. PEKING.

I HE Bank purchases and receives for collection Bills of Exchange drawn on the above places, and Sells Drafts and Telegraphic Transiers Payable at its Branches and Agencies. HONGKONG BRANCH,

Advances made on approved securities, Bills discounted. INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS. per Annum Fixed Deposits for 3 months,

E. W. RUTTER, Manager. Hongkong, 12th August, 1903.

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1853. HEAD OFFICE:—LONDON. R SERVE LIABILITY OF SHARE-

NTEREST ALLOWED on CURRENT ACCOUNT at the Rate of 2 per cent, per annum on the Daily Balances. DEPOSITS received on terms which may be On Fixed Deposits for 12 months, 4 per cent,

T. P. COCHRANE, Hongkong, 24th December, 1903;

TO LET.

A A DRRISON HILL GAP ROAD. Nice L Houses, 4 Rooms, Bath Rooms, Outhouses and Verandahs. Only \$40 inclusive

CHEAPEST HOUSES IN THE COLONY.

WILD DELL BUILDINGS, No. 147 WANCHAI ROAD. Comfortable and Airy Flats of 2 or 3 Rooms, from \$25 inclusive of

S. A. SETH, Land and Estate Broker, Dairy Farm Co., Ltd. Hongkong, 12th September, 1903.

## HONGKONG HOTEL.

Military Band during dinner on Saturday Nights.

Mails.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAMERS. TO SAIL ON REMARKS. SHANGHAI and KOBE ... YOKOHAMA VIA SHANGHAI, (PALERMO ..... About 28th ) Freight and E. G. Andrews ...... (Passing through the Inland Sea). December | Passage. BENGAL ..... SHANGHAI..... About 1st ? Freight and G. Philipps...... January J Passage. SIMEA LONDON, &c..... Noon, and } See Special F. R.: Summers..... January . S. Advertisement SINGAPORE and BOMBAY ... . H. W. Kenrick, R.N.R.... January Freight only. (Calling at Penang if sufficient inducement offers). LUNDON and ANTWERP VIA SINGAPORE, PENANG, (CRYLON ......) About 7th ) Freight and COLOMBO, PORT SAID and C. F. Lo.kstone, R.N.R., } January | Passage. MARSEILLES

For Furiher Parmulais, apply to

E. A. HEWETT, Superintender t

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

rlingkong, 26th December, 1903.

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE.

STEAM FOR 31NGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, NAPLES, GENOA, ANTWERP, BREMEN/HAMBURG; PORTS IN THE LEVANTE, BLACK SÉA AND BALTIC PORTS;

LONDON, NEW YORK, BOSTON, BALTIMORE, NEW ORLEANS, GALVESTON, AND SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS; Steamers will call at GIBRALTAR and SOUTHAMPTON to land Passengers

and Luggage. N.B.-Cargo can be taken on through Bills of Lading for the Principal Places in Russia.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG. · (SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.)

STEAMERS. SAILING DATES. BAYERN ......WEDNESDAY, 20th January, 1904. SACHSEN .....WEDNESDAY, 3rd February, 1904. GERA ......WEDNESDAY, 17th February, 1904. SEYDLITZ ...... WEDNESDAY, 2nd March, 1904. PREUSSEN......WEDNESDAY, 16th March, 1904. ROON ...... WEDNESDAY, 30th March, 1904. \*HAMBURG ......WEDNESDAY, 13th April, 1904. PRINZ HEINRICH......WEDNESDAY, 27th April, 1904. \* Steamers of the Hamburg-Amerika Linie.

WEDNESUAY, the 6th day of January, 1904, at Noon, the Steamship "KIAUTSCHOU," of the HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE, Captain Behrens, with MAILS, PASSENGERS, SPECIE and CARGO, will leave this Port as above, Calling at NAPLES and GENOA.

Shipping Orders will be granted till Noon, on MONDAY, the 4th January, Cargo and Specie will be received on Board until 5 P.M., on TUESDAY, the 5th January, and Parcels will be received at the Agency's Office until Noon, on TUESDAY, the 5th January. Contents of Packages are required. No Parcel Receipts will be signed for less than \$2.50 and Parcels should not exceed Two Feet Cubic in Measurement.

The Steamer has splendid Accommodation and carries a Doctor and Stewardesses. Linen can be washed on board.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

For further Particulars, apply to

MELCHERS & CO., AGENTS.

Hongkong, 23rd December, 1903.

### Intimations.

# LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

NEW YEAR GOODS!

Leather Goods in Great Variety. DECORATIVE TABLE GLASSWARE. PRETTY DESSERT SERVICES.

## AND

TOM SMITH'S AND CALEY'S CRACKERS. CROSSE AND BLACKWELL'S XMAS PUDDINGS!! HUNTLEY AND PALMER'S XMAS CAKES!! FIGS. METZ FRUITS.

MUSCATELS. ELVAS AND CARLSBAD PLUMS.

LANE. CRAWFORD & CO. Hongkong, 8th December, 1903.

close proximity to the Banks and principal business places. TERMS VERY MODERATE.

For Particulars apply to

THE MANAGER.

[7320

#### NOTICE

TO THE WEARIED

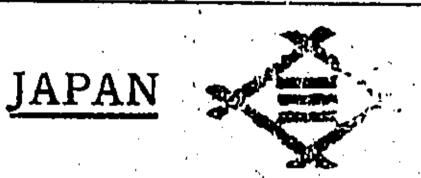
There is no nicer place to spend a few days in quiet rest, than MACAO.

And there is no more Comfortable Hotel in the Far East, than the MACAO HOTEL.

## Intimations.

When you feel in something to refresh the body and at the same time nourish and sustain—something to make strong, hale and hearty —try a cup of Bovril.





(MITSUI & Co.) HEAD OFFICE:-- I, SURUGA-CHO, TOKYO. LONDON BRANCH:-34, LIME STREET, E.C.

HONGKONG BRANCH: PRINCE'S BUILDINGS, ICE HOUSE STREET. OTHER OFFICES: New York, San Francisco, Hamburg, Bombay, Singapore, Sourabaya, Manila, Amoy, Shanghai, Chefoo, Tientsin, Newshwang, Port Arthur, Seoul, Chemulpo, Yokohama,

Yokosuka, Nagoya, Osaka, Kobe, Maidzuru, Kure, Shimonoseki, Moji, Wakamatsu,

Karatsu, Nagasaki, Kuchinotsu, Sasebo, Miike, Hakodate, Taipeh, &c. Telegraphic Address: "MITSUI" (A.B.C. and A 1 Codes).

CONTRACTORS OF COAL to the Imperial Iapanese Navy and Arsenals and the State Railways; Principal Railway Companies and Industrial Works; Home and Foreign Mail and Freight Steamers.

SOLE PROPRIETORS of the Famous Milke, Tagawa, Yamano and Ida Coal Mines; and SOLE AGENTS for Fujinotana, Hokoku, Hondo, Ichimura, Kanada, Mameda, Mannoura, Onoura, Otsuji, Sasahara, Tsubakuro, Yoshinotani, Yoshio, Yunokibara and other Coals. N. INUZUKA, Manager, Hongkong. 563c] -

WINE MERCHANTS, 12 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

Picnic parties furnished with wines, etc., at a moment's notice.

Contracts made on special terms with Caterers, Committees, Messes and Captains of Steamers. All Wines, Spirits and Beers supplied are guaranteed.

Price list on application.

Hongkong, 23rd July, 1903.

TELEPHONE No. 135.



## AQUARIUS COMPANY.

The Aquarius Company's Table Waters are made of. pure treble distilled water only.

Absolute purity can only be obtained by distillation. AQUARIUS MINERAL WATER. SILENT WATER.

Telephone No. 75,

TONIO WATER. GINGER ALE. GINGER BEER. LEMONADE. LITHIA WATER.

CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & Co., GENERAL MANAGERS.

15, Queen's Road, Hongkong, 12th December, 1903.

OCCIDENTAL HOTEL (ELGIN ROAD, KOWLOON.) CODE ADDRESS: "YOSEMITE."

35 BEDROOMS EXCELLENTLY FURNISHED. BATH TO EACH ROOM. DINING ROOM AND CUISINE UNDER STRICT SUPERVISION. EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN WINES, SPIRITS AND BEERS.

POOL AND BILLIARDS. ENGLISH, AMERICAN, AND MANILA NEWSPAPERS IN FILE TERMS.—\$4.00 to \$7.00 per day. \$75 to \$120 per month.

Hongkong, 22nd August, 1903.

JAS. D. M. CAMERO

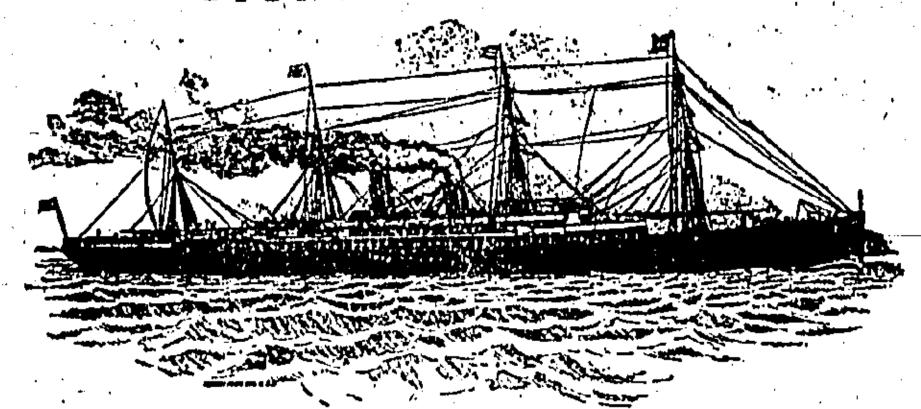
3

GO TO THE

WM. FARMER, KOWLOON

Hais'cong, 4th Decamber, 1903.

Proprietor,



PACIFIC MAIL 8.8. CO., OCCIDENTAL & ORIENTAL S.S. CO., TOYO KISEN KAISHA.

TAKING PASSENGERS AND CARGO TO JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES, MEXICO. CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA AND EUROPE:

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

	"KOREA"11,276 Gross To	ns. SUNDAY 27th December at 0 A M
		CATTINDAY - 11 I
	"GAELIC" 4,205 ,,	SATURDAY, 2nd January, 1904, at Noc
	"HONGKONG MARU" 6,307 ,,	SATURDAY, 9th January, at Noon.
	"CHINA." 5,060 ,,	TUESDAY, 19th January, at Noon.
	"DORIC" 4,784 "	FRIDAY, 29th January, at Noon.
	"NIPPON MARU" 6,307 "	SATURDAY, 6th February, at Noon.
	"SIBERIA"	SATURDAY, 13th February, at Noon.
'	"COPTIC" 4,352 ,,	".TUESDAY, 23rd February, at Noon.
	"AMERICA MARU " 6,307 " "	WEDNESDAY, 2nd March, at Noon.

Record Trip Yokohama to San Francisco made by s.s. "KOREA," 11,276 tons, Oct. 18th-28th, 1902; 10 days, 15 hours.

THE P. M. Company's' Steamship "KOREA" will be despatched for SAN FRAN-CISCO, via SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE, INLAND SEA, YOKO-HAMA and HONOLULU, TO-MORROW, the 27th instant, at 9 A.M., taking Freight for Japan, the United States, and Europe. Passengers are allowed to break their journey at any point en route.

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers, and to the principal cities of the United States or Canada. Passengers holding through ORDERS TO EUROPE have the choice of the Overland Rail Routes from San Francisco, including the SOUTHERN PACIFIC, CENTRAL PACIFIC, UNION PACIFIC, DENVER and RIO GRANDE, and NORTHERN PACIFIC RAIL-WAY; also the CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY on payment of £4 in addition to the regular tarifi rate.

Passengers holding Orders for OVERLAND CITIES in the United States have between SAN FRANCISCO and CHICAGO, the option of the SOUTHERN PACIFIC, CENTRAL PACIFIC, UNION PACIFIC, DENVER and RIO GRANDE, and other direct connecting Railways, and from Chicago to destination the choice of direct lines.

Special rates (First-class only) to European Points, are granted to Missionaries, Members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic and Consular Services, and European Civil Service Officials located in Asia, and to European Officials in the Service of the Governments of China and

TO UNITED STATES and CANADIAN POINTS, Special rates (first class only) are confined and will apply only to Missionaries, Members of the Naval and Military Services, and to Consular and Diplomatic Officials of the Governments of China and Japan.

Through Bills of Lading issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports, to San Franscisco, to Atlantic and Inland Cities of the United States, via Overland Railway, to Havana, Trinidad, and Demerara, and to ports in Mexico, Central and South America, by the Companies' and connecting Steamers.

#### FEATURES OF THIS LINE.

The largest and steadiest passenger ships on the Pacific.

Southern Route; passengers enjoy out-doors throughout; deck bathing. The call at Honolulu, Oahu, the most fertile and beautiful island of the Pacific. The only line to San Francisco, the greatest port of the Pacific. Sailings positively on schedule date.

For further Information as to Passage and Freight, apply to the Agency of the Companies, Queen's Building.

J. STUART THOMSON, Acting Agent. Hongkong, 24th December, 1903.

#### CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COY.'S ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIP

SAFETY.

PUNCTUALITY.

THE FAST ROUTE BETWEEN CHINA, JAPAN AND EUROPE, VIA CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES.

SPEED.

(CALLING AT SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA & VICTORIA, B.C.)

"EMPRESS" Twin Screw Steamships--6,000 Tons-10,000 Horse Power-Speed 19 Knots. PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.—(SUBJECT TO ALTERATION).

	••			·	•
R.M.S.	"EMPRESS OF CH	INA" 6,000	Tons WI	EDNESDAY, 13th	January, 1904.
19	"ATHENIAN"	3,882	ः,, WI	EDNESDAY, 27th	January.
11	"EMPRESS OF IN				
1)	"TARTAR"	4,425	, , W1	EDNESDAY, 24th	February.
17	"EMPRESS OF JA	PAN" 6,000	.,	EDNESDAY, 9th	March.
19	"EMPRESS OF CH	INA " 0,000	, , W1	EDNESDAY, 30th	March.
	"EMPRESS OF IN		,, W I	EDNESDAY, 20th	April.
n	"ATHENIAN"	3,882	,, YY A	EDNESDAY, 27th	April
1)	"EMPRESS OF JA	MM " *** 0,000	- 11	EDNESDAY, 11th	May.

THE magnificent "EMPRESS" Twin-screw Steamships of this Line pass through the famous INLAND SEA OF JAPAN, and usually make the voyage YOKOHAMA TO VANCOUVER (B.C.) in 12 DAYS, ("TARTAR" and "ATHENIAN" 14 DAYS,) saving THREE DAYS to a WEEK in the Trans-Pacific journey, and make connection at Vancouver with the PALATIAL OVERLAND TRAINS of the CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY which leave daily, and cross the Continent FROM THE PACIFIC TO THE ATLANTIC WITHOUT CHANGE. Close connection is made at Montreal, Quebec, Halifax, New York and Boston with all Trans-Atlantic Lines, which passengers

to Great Britain and the Continent are given choice of.

Passengers Booked through to all principal points and AROUND THE WORLD,
Return tickets to various points at reduced rates, Good for 4, 6, 9 and 12 months.

SPECIAL RATES (First class only) granted to Missionaries, Members of the Naval,
Military, Diplomatic and Civil Services, and to European Officials in the Service of China and Japan Governments.

The attractive features of the Company's route embrace its PALATIAL STEAMSHIPS, (second to none in the World), the LUXURIANCE OF ITS TRANS-CONTINENTAL TRAINS (the Company having received the highest award for same at Chicago World's Exhibition), and the diversity of MAGNIFICENT MOUNTAIN AND LAKE SCENERY

through which the Railway passes.

THE DINING CARS and MOUNTAIN HOTELS of this route are owned and operated by the Company, and their appointments and Cuisine are unexcelled.

For further information, Maps, Guide Books, Rates of Passage, &c., apply to D. E. BROWN, General Agent, Hongkong, 1st September, 1903. Pedder's Street.

#### HAMBURG-AMERIKA NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD OSTASIATISCHER FRACHTDAMPFER DIENST.

Taking Cargo at through Rates to ANTWERP, AMSTERDAM, ROTTERDAM, COPENHAGEN, LISBON, OPORTO, LONDON, LIVERPOOL, GLASGOW, TRIESTE, GENOA, PORTS IN THE LEVANTE; BLACK SEA and BALTIC PORTS; NORTH and SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS).

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG

19 A 4-1	SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.		
STRAMERS.	DESTINATIONS. S	AILING DATES.	•
NURNBERG} Jaburg	HAVRE and HAMBURG. (Calling at SINGAPORE and PENANG).	30th Dec.	Freight.
SAVOIA	ROTTERDAM and HAMBURG.	toth January,	Freight and
Deinat	(Calling at SINGAPORE).	1004	Passengers
AMBRIA	HAVRE and HAMBURG.	15th January,	l Frainh
Duckstein			
WURZBURG}	HAVRE, BREMEN and HAMBURG.	[28th January, ]	
v. Binzer	(Calling at SINGAPORE and PENANG).	1904.	Passengers.
ALESIA	HAVRE and HAMBURG.	(6th February, )	Freight.
Schönfeldt.	(Calling at SINGAPORE and COLOMBO).	L 1904, S	)
NUBIA	NEW YORK	About end of	
von Hoff	Via Surz.	beginning of	i January, 🦈

For further Particulars, apply to

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE. HONGKONG OFFICE.

No. 1, Queen's Bulldings.

#### HONGKONG, CANTON, MACAO AND WEST RIVER STEAMERS.

JOINT SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD., AND THE CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

	HONGKONG-CANTON LINE.	•.
S.S.	"HONAM,"2,363 tons,Captain 11. D. Jones.	
19	"POWAN,"	R.N.R.
17	"FATSH (N,"	
17	"HANKOW,"3,073 ,,, ,, C. V. I.loyd.	÷ • •
19	"KINSHAN,"2,860 ,, ,, J. J. Lossius.	

Departures from Hongkong to Canton daily at 8 A.M. (Sunday excepted) and at 5.30 P.M. (Saturday excepted). Departures from CANTON to HONGKONG daily at 8 A.M. and 5 P.M. (Sunday excepted). These Steamers, carrying His Majesty's Mails, are the largest and fastest on the River Special attention is drawn to their Superior Salcon and Cabin accommodation,

SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO. LTD. HONGKONG MACAO LIN ...

> S.S. "HEUNGSHAN," ......1,998 tons,...... Captain W. E. Clarke.
>
> Departures from Hongkong to Macao daily at 2 P.M. \ Sunday from Macao to Hongkong daily at 8 A.M. S excepted.

> > CANTON-MACAO LINE.

S.S. "LUNGSHAN," .......z19 tons, ........... Captain T. Hamlin.
This steamer leaves Canton for Macao every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at about 7.30 A.M.; and leaves Macao for Canton every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at about 7.30 A.M.

JOINT SERVICE OF THE H.K., C. AND MACA J STEAMBOAR CO., LTD., THE CHINA NAVIGA-TION COMPANY, LTD., AND THE INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

CANTON-WUCHOW LINE. S.S. "SAINAM,"......588 tons,......Captain B. Branch. "NANNING,"......569 , ........ 

Departures from Canton and Wuchow about five times every week. Round trips take about 5 days. These vessels have Superior Cabin accommodation and are lighted throughout by electricity. Further particulars may be obtained at the Office of the-

HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LD., 18, Bank Buildings, Queen's Road Central, opposite the Hongkong Hotel Or of BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents, CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD

Hongkong, 7th November, 1903.

CHINA-JAPA, Hongkong.

REGULAR FOUR-WEEKLY SERVICE HETWEEN JAVA, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

Steamer.	From	Expected on or about	Will leave for	On or about
•				
TJIPANAS	JAVA PORTS via Macassar.	January 10	SHANGHAI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA.	January 12
TJILATJAP	KOBE and Y'HAMA.	Second half of December	S'PORE, JAVA PORTS and MACASSAR.	Second half of December
тјімані	Do.	First half of January	Do.	First half of January

The Steamers are all fitted throughout with Electric Light and have Accommodation for a limited number of Saloon Passengers, and will take Cargo to all Netherlands India Ports on through Bills of Lading.

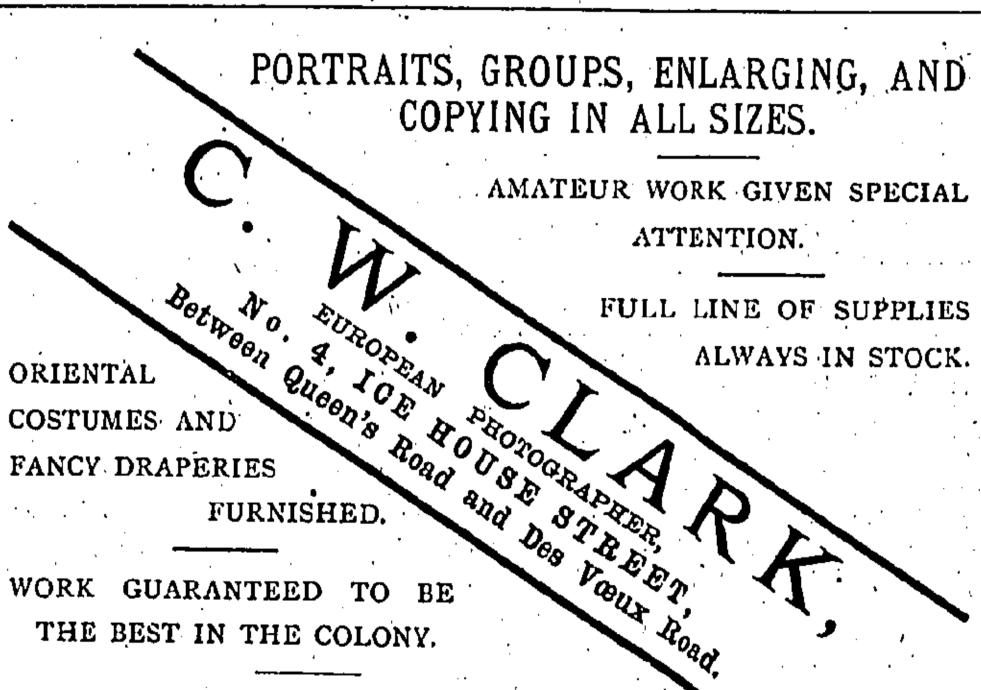
For Particulars of Freight and Passage, apply to

THE HOLLAND-CHINA TRADING CO.

Telephone No. 201. "Hongkong, 30th November, 1903.

[11636

## Intimations.



SPECIAL TOILET ROOM.

964e] PATRONAGE RESPECTFULLY SOLICITED.

# QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

A FIRST CLASS HOTEL SITUATED NEAR THE BANKS AND PRINCIPAL OFFICES. EXCELLENT CUISINE AND WINES. Large and Lofty Rooms Elegantly Furnished. Hydraulic Elevator. Hot and Cold Water throughout. Special Rates for Tourists. Launch Service for Guests. For Terms, apply to

Hongkong, 1st November, 1902.

THE MANAGER. [1339c

## INCANDESCENT

The attention of consumers is drawn to the fact that the Undersigned, being Sole Agents for

AUER VON WELSBACH Co., VIENNA.

INVENTORS OF INCANDESCENT THE GAS LIGHT. ARE SELLING THE ONLY CENUINE MANTLES, The Price of which has been reduced to

FIFTY CENTS per piece. BEWARE OF INFERIOR IMITATIONS!

KRUSE & Co.,

CONNAUGHT HOUSE.

# THE YOKOHAMA DOCK CO., LTD.

No. 1 DOCK.

No. 2 DOCK.

Length inside. 514 ft. Width of entrance, top 95 ft.; bottom 75 ft. Water on blocks, 27.5 ft. Time to pump out, 4 hours.

Length inside, 875 ft. Width of entrance, top 60.5 ft.; bottom 45.8 ft. Water on blocks, 26.5 ft. Time to pump out, 2 hours.

THESE DOCKS are conveniently situated in Yokohama harbour and the attention of Captains and Engineers is respectfully called to the advantages offered for Docking and repairing Vessels and Machinery of every description.

The plant and tools are of recent patterns for dealing quickly and cheaply with work, and a large stock of material is always at hand, (plates and angles all being tested by Lloyds' surveyors).

Two powerful Twin Screw Towboats are available for taking Vessels in or out of Dock, and for taking Sailing Vessels in or out of the bay. The floating derrick is capable of lifting 35 tons.

Steam Launches of Steel or Wood, Lighters, Steel Buildings and Roofs, Bridge Work, and all kinds of Machinery are made on the premises.

Tenders will be made up when required and the workmanship and material will be guaranteed.

The cost of Docking, and repair work, will be found to compare favourably with that of any port in the world.

Telephone: Works, No. 508; General, No. 376. Telegrams, "Dock, Yokohama," Codes A. I. and A. B. C. (4th). Yokohama, May 11th, 1903.

Plunker's Gap, the Peak, near the Tram Terminus. Tel. 56. For Terms, &c., apply to the

Hongkong, 2nd July, 1900.

MANAGER.

LEVY HERMANOS. D'AMOND MERCHANTS, JEWELL-LERS AND WATCHMAKERS.

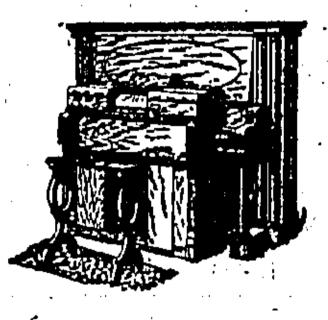
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THE

THERE IS NO

GIVES SUCH GREAT AND PER-MANENT PLEASURE AS





# IT IS A

Pay PART Cash and Balance

Good Band Music.

#### VICTOR TALKING MACHINES

absolute reproduction of the human voice. Songs by the Best Singers, Comic Songs and Speeches,

SPECIAL OFFER

at this Season. PAY for the Records now and for the Machine LATER.

## PIANOS:

Magnificent instruments at specially Low Prices during X'mas week. Do not fail to inspect our stock if you wish to make a handsome gift.

Our NEW STOCK OF MUSIC has arrived.

Hongkong, 22nd December, 1903.

#### THE HONGKONG STUDIO, HIGHER CLASS PHOTOGRAPHER,

41 & 43; QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, TOP FLOOR. ORTRAITS, GROUPS and ENLAR

GING and COPYING in all Sizes. LARGE SELECTION OF VIEWS ALWAYS ON HAND.

PRICE VERY MODERATE. Hongkong, 15th reptember, 1903. 💛 [11206]

#### DENTISTRY.

SUI SANG, (Lately Practising with Dr. I. SAKATA), No. 26, Connaught Road Central. Hangkong, oth February, 1903

FIRST Class PILSENER BEEF guaranteed free from Salicylic Acid, and any other Chemicals. PRICE \$10.50 per case of 48 bottles (quarts)

TUBORG

or 6 doz. pints. Special Prices for Quantities. Sole Agents :--SIEMSSEN & CO.

EASTMAN'S

KODAKS and FILMS.

Sole Agents for "OMEGA" WATCHES." "OMEGA" is the best, "THREE YEARS!

guarantee given to every purchaser.

40, QUEEN'S ROAD,

Watson's Building

BEER.

Hongkong, toth January, 1903 A WONDERFUL DISCOVERY. This is thence of research and experiment, when all nature, so to speak, is ran-acked by the science has for the comfort and happiness of man escience has indeed made giant strides during the past century, and among the—by no means least important discoveries in medicine comes that of Therapion. perticulars of which will be found in another column. This preparation is unquestionably one of the most genuine and reliable l'atent Medicines everintroduced, and has, we understand, been used in the Continental Hospitals by Ricord, Rostan, tobert. Velpeau, Malsonneuve, the well-known Chassaignae, and indeed by all those who are reported as authorities in such matters, including the celebrated Lallemand, and Roux, by whom it was some time since uniformly adopted, and that it is worthytheattentlonof those who requiresuch a remedy we think there is no doubt. From the time of Aristotle downwards, a potent agent in the removal of these diseases has (like the famed philosopher's stone) been the object of search of some hopeful, generous minds; and far beyond the mere now reli such could ever have been discovered—of transmitting the baser metals into gold is surely the discovery of a remedy so potent as to replenish the failing energies of the confirmed rone in the one case, and in the other so effectually, speedily and safely to expel from the system without the aid, or even the knowledge, of a second party, the po sons of acquired or inherited disease in all their proteau forms as to leave notaint or trace behind. Such is The New Prench Remedy Therapion, which in the Continental Hospitals by Ricord, Rostan, Such is The New Prench Remedy Therapion, which m w certainty rank with; if not take precedence

of, in my of the discoveries of our day, about which no little osteniation and noise have been made, and the extensive and ever-increasing demand that has been created for this medicine wherever introhas been created for this medicine wherever intro-duced appears to prove that it is destined to cast into oblivion all those questionable remedies that were formerly the sole reliance of medical men. Theraploid may be obtained in Englan i direct from the proprietor, and of the principal Chemists and Merchania throughout the Colonies, India, China, Japan, &c., not even excluding such remote districts as Central Africa, the Fijl Islands, St. Helena &c.—DiamondFieldsAdvertiver Kimberlay

MEE CHEUNG, PHOTOGRAPHER,

TOP FLOOR OF ICE HOUSE, IN Ice-House Roal.

IS now in a position, in his New and Com modious Premises, to eclipse, as heretotore **\LL PHOTOGRAPHIC ART PRACTICED** n the Colony or in any part of the Far East.
GROUPS AND VIEWS

a speciality. 4000 kong. 2200 Septembe, 1808. ..... [4558

THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY

THERAPION

This successful and highly popular remedy, used in the Continental Hospitals by Ricord, Rostan, Johert, Velpeau and others, combines all the desiderata to be sought in a medicine of the kind, and suspasses everything bitherio

short time, often a few days only, removes all discharges from the urinary organs, effectually superseding injections, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of stricture and other serious diseases. In dysentery, piles, irritation of the lower bowel, cough, brough its, asthma, and some of the more trying complaints of this kind, it will be found, astonishingly efficacious, affording prompt relief where other well-tried remedies have been poweriess.

THERAPION NO. 2 for im-the blood, scurvy, pimples, spots, blotches, pains and swel-lings of the joints, secondary symptoms, gout, rhoumatism, and all diseases for which it has been too much a fashion

to employ mercury, sarsaparilla, ac., to the destruction of sufferers' teeth and ruin of health. This preparation purificathe wholesystem through the blood, and thoroughly climinates every polsonous matter from the body.

THERAPION NO. 3 nervous exhaustion, impaired vitality, alcepteasness, and all the distressing consequences of early error, excess, residence in hot, unhealthy climates, &c. It possesses surprising power in restoring strength and vigor to the debilitated.

THERAPION is sold by the prin-legal Chemists and Merchants throughout the world. Price in England s/n & 4/6,9 In ordering, state which of the three numbers is required, and observe above Trade Mark, which is a fac-simile of word." THERAPION" as it appears on the light show Government Stamp (in white letters on a red grapped affixed to every package by order of His Majesty's Mag. Commissioners, and without which it is a forgery.

Sold by A. S. WATSON & Co., Limited, [20 Hongkong, Chiun and Manilal

Hongkong, 23rd December, 1901.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP CO., LD.

CHINA MUTUAL STEAM NAV. CO., LD.

JOINT SERVICES.

TAKING CARGO ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING FOR ALL EUROPEAN.

NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICAN, WEST AUSTRALIAN, JAVA

AND SUMATRA PORTS.

FORTNIGHTLY SAILINGS FOR LONDON AND CONTINENT.

OUTWARDS.

GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL ..... "NESTOR" ..... On 1st January.

GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL ..... "GLAUCUS"...... On 3rd February.

HOMEWARDS.

\*LIVERPOOL ..... On 19th January.

\*GENOA, MARSEILLES & L'POOL "KEEMUN" ...... On 15th February.

'LONDON & ANTWERP ..... "KINTUCK" ...... On toth February.

\* Taking Cargo for Liverpool at London Rates.

TRANS-PACIFIC SERVICE.

STEAMERS.

'CHINGTU "\* ..... 30th

'CHINGIU ",\* ‡ ...|30th

MARSEILLES, L'DON & A'WERP ... " DARDANUS " .....

MARSEILLES, L'DON & A'WERP... " YANGTSZE ".....

VICTORIA, SEATTLE, TACOMA, and TYDEUS"

CHINA NAVIGATION CO.,

MANILA ...... KAIFONG "\* .....30th

KOBE..... "TAIYUAN "\* ..... ist January.

\* The Attention of Passengers is directed to the Superior Accommodation offered by these

steamers, which are fitted throughout with Electric Light. Unrivalled table. A duly

† Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtsze and Northern China Ports.

N.A.-REDUCED SALOON FARES, SINGLE AND RETURN, TO MANILA AND

STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

PORTLAND & ASIATIC STEAMSHIP CO

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG, VIA SHANGHAI, INLAND

SEA OF JAPAN, MOJI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA,

PORTLAND, OREGON,

OPERATING IN CONNECTION WITH

THE ORECON RAILROAD AND NAVIGATION COMPANY.

United States Points. For through rates of Freight and further information, communicate

Through Bills of Lading issued to Pacifi Coast Points and all Eastern, Canadian and

"INDRAPURA" .......4,899......A. E. Hollingsworth ...... Feb. 13,

"INDRASAMHA" .....5,197.......W. E. Craven.....

Captain

For

1980 A. H. Notley .. ... AMOY & MANILA ... MONDAY, 28th Dec., at

SHANGHAI† ..... "YOCHOW" .....

GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL .....

GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL.....

GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL .....

GLASGOW and LIVERPO )L .....

GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL ......

GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL......

LONDON & ANTWERP .....

LONDON & ANTWERP .....

all PACIFIC COAST PORTS, via

Hongkong, 23rd December, 1903.

MANILA ....

COOKTOWN, CAIRNS, TOWNS-{ VILLE, BRISBANE, SYDNEY and {

MELBOURNE ......

For Freight or Passage, apply to

Passengers.

Captain.

CHINA

Tons.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

Hongkong, 26th December, 1903.

Steamship

TOYO KISEN KAISHA

with or apply to

1266c]

Hongkong, 24th December, 1903.

PORT DARWIN, THURSDAY ISLAND,

qualified Surgeon is carried,

AUSTRALIAN PORTS.

Steamship.

NAGASAKI, KOBE and YOROHAMA.

For Freight, apply to

MONTHLY SAILINGS FOR LIVERPOOL.

STEAMERS

" PYRRHUS"....

"TYDEUS" .....

"KEEMUN"...... On 8th January.
"KINTUCK"..... On 14th January.

"PINGSUEY" ..... On 22nd January.

" MOYUNE " ........... On 28th January.

" NESTOR " ...... On 2nd February.

"PINGSUEY"..... On 24th January.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

AGENTS.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.

AGENTS.

MANILA

Sailing Dates.

Hongkong-Manila.

-All the most up-to-date arrangements for comfort of

Highest Class, newest, fastest and most luxurious Steamers

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,

GENERAL MANAGERS.

" MOYUNE " ...... On 1st March.

On 27th December.

On 27th December.

On 5th January.

On 19th January.

TO SAIL

TO SAIL.

26th December.

On 29th December.

HONGKONG-MANILA,

REDUCED SALOON PAS-SAGE MONEY.

SINGLE, \$20. RETURN, \$35.

TEAMERS fitted throughout with Electric Light. First Class Accommodation. Unrivalled Table. Duly qualified Surgeon carried.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

Hongkong, 8th July, 1903. HONGKONG-MAUAO LINE.

S.S. "WING CHAI," Captain SAMUEL BELL SMITH, TEPARTURES from Hongkong, on Week Days, at 7.30 A.M.; on Excursion Sundays,

at 8.30 A.M.; from Macao, Week Days at about 2 P.M. and Sundays about 7.30 P.M. FARE: -(Week Days) 1st Class (including cabin and servant), \$3; Return Ticket, \$5.

2nd Class, \$t; 3rd Class, 50 cents.
On Excursion Sundays, 1st, 2nd, 3rd Class
Single Ticket, \$2; Return Ticket, \$3. Return
Ticket including Tiffin and Dinner either on Board or at Macao Hotel, \$5. On Sundays, \$5 extra will be charged for each cabin with accommodations for two or more passengers. WHARF-At the Western end of Wing Lok

Street. The Steamer runs an Excursion Trip EVERY SUNDAY. It takes only 3½ hours to reach MING ON & CO.,

2nd Floor, No. 16, Victoria Street. Hongkong, 7th September, 1903.

STEAM TO CANTON.

THE Splendid New Steel Twin Screw

"KWONG CHOW," 1,474 Tons, Captain Walker, leaves Hong-

KONG for CANTON at 8.30 P.M. on SUNDAYS, TUESDAYS and THURSDAYS, returning to Hongkong the following days leaving CANTON at 5 P.M. Unexcelled Accommodation for First Class Passengers. Ship lighted throughout by Electricity. Passage Fare. \$4 Single Journey.

Meals \$1 each. The Company's Wharf is West of the Hong-

kong Harbour Master's Office.

SHIU ON S.S. CO., LTD., No. 8, Queen's Road West. Hongkong, 30th May, 1903. DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY,

LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOUCHOW. Taking Cargo and Passengers at through Rates for all New Zealand and other Australian THE Company's Steamship

> "HAITAN," Captain Roach, will be despatched for the above Ports, TO-MORROW, the 27th instant, at Daylight. For Freight or Passage apply to

DOUGLAS, LAPRAIK & CO., .. General Managers. Hongkong, 24th December, 1903.

BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR AMOY, SWATOW, STRAITS AND RANGOON. THE Company's Steamship

"AVOCA,". between Hongkong and Manila.—Saloon amidships—Electric | Captain W.A. Fausset, will be despatched as Light-Perfect Cuisine-Surgeon and Stewardess carried. above on MONDAY, the 28th instant, at Noon. For Freight or Passage, apply to JÄRDINE, MATHESON & Co.,

> Hongkong, 21st December, 1903. INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA. THE Company's Steamship

"NAMSANG," Captain Geo. Payne, will be despatched as above on WEDNESDAY, the 30th instant, at Noon. For Freight or Passage, apply to JÄRDINE, MATHESON & Co.,

General Managers. Hongkong, 23rd December, 1903. COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES

MARITIMES. PAQUEBOTS-POSTE FRANCAIS.

FOR SHANGHAI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA. THE Company's Steamship

"POLYNESIEN," Captain Le Coispellier, will be despatched for the above Por.s on or about WEDNESDAY, the 30th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to G. DE CHAMPEAUX, Agent.

Hongkong, 23rd December, 1903. FOR YOKOHAMA, KOBE AND TSINGTAU.

THE H.A.L. Steamship "BADENIA," Captain Rörden, will be despatched for the

above Ports, on SATURDAY, the 2nd January, at Noon. For Freight, apply to HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE, Hongkong Office.

"GLEN" LINE OF STEAMSHIPS. FOR LONDON AND ANTWERP. THE Steamship

Hongkong, 24th December, 1003

"GLENFARG," Captain Holman, will be despatched as above on SATURDAY, the 9th January, 1904. For Freight or Passage, apply to McGREGOR BROS. & GOW

Hongkong, 17th December, 1903. REGULAR STEAMSHIP SERVICE

TO NEW YORK, VIA PORTS AND SUEZ CANAL -(With Liberty to call at PHILIPPINE PORTS). PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG. "SIKH" .....12th Jan. " SAGAMI ".....26th Jan.

"AFRIDI" ..... 9th Feb. For Freight and further Information, apply DODWELL & Co., LIMITED,

Shipping—Steamers.

NOTICE. THE HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT COMPANY,

SUNDAY EXCURSION TO MACAO. THE Steamer

(weather permitting and sufficient inducement offering) will make a SPECIAL EXCURSION TRIP to MACAO TO-MORROW, the 27th instant, leaving Hongkong at 9 A.M. and Macao

Return Fare, \$5.00. Cabins, \$5.00 Extra, TICKETS obtainable on Board the Steamer. By Order of the Board of Directors, T. ARNOLD,

Hongkong, 23rd December, 1903.

EXCURSION TO MACAO. THE Commodious Steamer

at 8.15 P.M. sharp.

"TAI ON." will run a SPECIAL TRIP to MACAO, TO-MORROW, the 27th instant, leaving her usual Wharf West at 9 A.M. and return from Macao

TICKETS, RETURN FARE, \$2.

A Charitable Bazaar in aid of the Canossian Sisters of Charity will be held at the Public Gardens, San Francisco, (Praia Grande). Meals can be had on Board. RITCHIE & CO.

Hongkong, 21st December, 1903. CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY EXCURSIONS TO MACAO.

THE Favourite Passenger Steamer

"WING CHAI" will run SPECIAL TRIPS to MACAO on the 27th and 28th December, leaving her Wharf in Hongkong at 9.30 A.M. Each Day and Macao at 7.30 P.M., arriving Hongkong about II P.M.

FARE:-Return Ticket available for Three The Steamer will also run on CHRISTMAS DAY leaving Hongkong at 8.30 A.M. and

Macao at 2 P.M. MING ON & CO. Hongkong, 16th December, 1903.

THE AMERICAN ASIATIC STEAM-SHIP COMPANY.

STEAMSHIP SERVICE FOR NEW YORK VIA THE SUEZ CANAL. THE Company's Steamship

Captain Lockhart, will be despatched as above on or about MONDAY, the 28th instant.

For Freight, &c., apply to SHEWAN, TOMES & Co., General Agents. Hongkong, 19th December, 1902. [1454e

"SHIRE" LINE. FOR LONDON AND HAMBURG. THE Company's Steamship

"FLINTSHIRE," Captain J. M. Haffner, will be despatched for the above Ports, on or about MONDAY the 28th instant.

FOR LONDON, HAVRE AND HAMBURG. THE Company's Steamship

"DENBIGHSHIRE." Captain W. A. Evans, will be despatched for the above Ports on or about FRIDAY, the 15th January, 1904, to be followed by the Steamship "RADNORSHIRE,"

Captain C. H. Burch, on or about SATUR-DAY, the 30th January, 1904. These Steamers have Superior Accommodation for Passengers.

For Freight or Passage, apply to SHEWAN, TOMES & CO., Agents. Hongkong, 22nd December, 1903.

FOR CHEMULPO, DALNY AND PORT ARTHUR. (Calling at SHANGHAI). THE Steamship

"SULLBERG," Captain Meyer, will be despatched for the above Ports, on FRIDAY, the 1st January at Noon. For Freight or Passage, apply to

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE, Hongkong Office. Hongkong, 24th December, 1903.

Consignees.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM MIDDLESBOROUGH, LONDON AND STRAITS. THE Steamship

"RADNORSHIRE," Captain C. H. Burch, having arrived from the above ports. Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, at Kowloon, and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 27th instant will be subiect to zent. All broken, chafed and damaged Goods are

to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 28th instant, at 2.30 P.M. No Fire Insurance has been effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,

Agents.... Hongkong, 21st December, 1903.

linsurance.

NORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HAMBURG.

THE Undersigned AGENTS of the above Company are prepared to accept First Class FOREIGN and CHINESE RISKS at CURRENT RATES.

SIEMSSEN & Co. Hanolong, alth May, That

PUTSCHE WEINGESELLSCHAFT DUHR & CO., COELN." STOCK ON HAND OF AHRBLEICHART, a red Ahr. Wine at \$18.50

GRAACHER, Moselle ...... at \$16.50 LAUBENHEIMER, Hock ...... at \$15.00 All per Case of 24 Quarts. Price Reductions for Larger Orders. GROSSMANN & CO.

Mails.

## YUSEN KAISHA.

## (THE JAPAN MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.)



PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG. SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

DESTINATIONS. SAILING DATES. HIROSHIMA MARU ....... SROMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND TUESDAY, 29th Dec., at VICTORIA, B.C., and SEATTLE, Tuesday, 29th Dec., at Kaga Maru\*... N. Ohno ..... and YOKOHAMA ..... KASUGA MARU ...... SNAGASAKI, KOBE and YOKO-7 WEDNESDAY, 30th Dec., at W. Scott. Hunter ..... HAMA .....

(SYDNEY and MELBOURNE, VIA) WEDNESDAY, 30th Dec., at A. E. Moses ...... and Brisbane ..... \* Through Passenger Tickets issued for the Principal Cities in the United States, Canada, and Europe, in connection with the GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY and Atlantic Steamers. Round-the-World Tickets also issued. - Between Moji and Kobe, 1st and 2nd Class Through

For further Information as to Freight, Passage, Sailings, &c., apply at the Company's Local Branch Office in Prince's Building, 181 Floor, Chater Road

S. MIHARA

Manayer.

Hongkong, 24th December, 1903. COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES

MARITIMES.

Passengers have the Option of Travelling by the Sanyo Railway.

PAQUEBOTS-POSTE FRANCAIS.

STEAM FOR

NOTICE.

SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, COLOMBO, ADEN, EGYPT, Marseilles, Mediterranean and BLACK SEA PORTS, LONDON, HAVRE, BORDEAUX;

PORTS OF BRAZIL AND RIVER PLATE.

N TUESDAY, the 29th December, 1903, at I P.M., the Company's Steamship "SALAZIE," Captain Negre, with Mails, Passengers, Specie and Cargo will leave this Port for MARSEILLES, via Ports of Call, WITHOUT TRANSHIPMENT. Cargo and Specie will be registered for Lon-

don as well as for Marseilles, and accepted in transit through Marseilles for the principal places of Europe. Shipping Orders will be granted till NOON

day. No Cargo will be received on board on and Value of Packages are required. For further Particulars, apply at the Com-

pany's Office. G. DE CHAMPEAUX, Agent. Hongkong, 17th December, 1903.

NORTHERN PACIFIC STEAMSHIP Bills of Lading. COMPANY.

BOSTON STEAMSHIP COMPANY. TOW-BOAT COMPANY.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG, SHANGHAI, INLAND SEA OF JAPAN, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA, FOR VICTORIA, B.C., AND TACOMA IN CONNECTION WITH NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY

COMPANY.

Captains. 1903-04. Tons. Steamers. Victoria\* ..... 3,502 J. Truebridge ... Dec. 30 ....... 4,417 G. V. Williams. Jan. 20 Olympia\* ... 2,83 A. Dixon ..... Feb. 11 Shawmut ..... 9,606 W. M. Smith ... Feb. Tacoma\* ..... 2,812 M. Ridley ..... Feb. Victoria\* ..... 3,502 J. Truebridge ... Mar.

f Cargo only. Steamers marked (\*) have no second-class passenger accommodation.

The attention of passengers is directed to the very cheap rates offered by this line to the Pacific Coast and to the Interior and Eastern Cities of the United States and to Europe. Special rates allowed to members of Government Services.

Through Bills of Lading issued to Pacific Coast Points and to the Principal Cities in the United States and Canada. For further Information as to Freight or Passage, apply to

DODWELL, & CO., LIMITED, General Agents.

Hongkong, 24th December, 1903.

**Botel**.

#### EDWARD HOTEL.

A HIGH CLASS PRIVATE HOTEL dual to exists <u>beinger s</u>aft, entrees

LADIES' AFTERNOON TEA ROOMS.

PRIVATE BAR

BILLIARD ROOMS.

Hot and Cold Water throughout. Electrically Lighted, Electric Fans (if required).

Electric Passenger Elevator to each Floor. Table D' Hote at Separate Tables. For Terms, &c., apply to the

MANAGER. Hongkong, said October, 1902 [TTIO]



THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM FOR STRAITS, CEYLON, AUSTRALIA, INDIA, ADEN, EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS, PLYMOUTH AND LONDON.

Through Bills of Lading issued for BATAVIV. PERSIAN GULF, CONTINENTAL, AMERI-CAN and SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.) THE Steamship

Captain F. R. Summers, carrying His Majesty's Mails, will be despatched from this for only on MONDAY, the 28th instant, Specie BOMBAY, on SATURDAY, the 2nd January, and Parcels received until 4 P.M. on the same at Noon, taking Passengers and Cargo for the

Silk and Valuables, all Cargo for France, Parcels are not to be sent on board; they | ind Tea for London (under arrangement) will must be left at the Agency's Office. Contents be transhipped at Colombo into a steamer proceeding direct to Marseilles and London; other Cargo for London, &c., will be conveyed vid Bombay. Parcels will be received at this Office until

P.M. the day before sailing. The Contents and Value of all Packages are required. Shippers are particularly requested to note the terms and conditions of the Company's

For further Particulars, apply to E. A. HEWETT,

Superintendent Hongkong, 21st December, 1003.

Masonic.

ZETLAND LODGE

No. 525, E.C.

REGULAR MEETING of ZETLAND LODGE will be held at the FREE-MASONS' HALL, Zetland Street, on MONDAY, the 28th instant, at 5.30 for 6 P.M. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited to attend.

Hongkong, 22nd December, 1903: [1536e NOTICE.

THE DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF HONGKONG AND SOUTH CHINA will hold its TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING at the MASONIC HALL, on TUES-DAY, the 29th instant, at 9 P.M. All Master Masons are cordially invited to

A. O.D. GOURDIN, D. G. Secretary. Hongkong, 24th December, 1903.

For Sale.

FOR SALE.

LIEATH'S PATENT HEZZANITH BELL. SEX FANTS. Other Makers: HUGHES, CARY & POTTER, &c, to be sold cheap. Apply-

Clo Hongkong Telegraph Office. Hongkong, 22nd December, 1903. - (15350. FOR SA .E.

INCANDESCENT GASOLINE LAMPS OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS, from the best makers. INCANDESCENT MANTLES, CHIMNEYS, GLOBES.

SHADES, &c., GASOLINE AND GAS LAMPS at the most moderate prices.

Lamps fixed up for Buyers free of charge. Naphtha of the best kind kept in stock.

TAI KWONG CO.

56, Lyndhurst Terrace. Hongkong, 1st December, 1903.

REGULAR SERVICE BETWEEN HONGKONG AND MANILA IN 48 HOURS.

ALLAN CAMERON, General Agent.

Largest and Fastest Steamers on the route. Excellent Accommodation. Cuisine Unexcelled. Unrivalled Speed. Fitted throughout with Electric Light. Doctor and Stewardess carried.

Steamship.	Captain.	Tons.	Sailing Date.
ROSETTA MARU	H. S. Smith	3,876	Tuesday, 29th December, at 11 A.M.
ROHILLA MARU	Ernest Bent	3,869	SATURDAY, and January, at 11 A.M.
			Office, 3, Queen's Building, Ice House

K. NAKASHIMA, Manager,

Agents. Hongkong, 21st December, 1903.

Hongkong, 16th October, 1903.

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WATSON & CO. \* LIMITED.

B.—OLD VINTAGE, super-

ior quality, Red Capsule -\$16.00 \$1.40 C.—FINE OLD VINTAGE

superior quality, Black

TAGE, extra superior, (old bottled), Violet Capsule - 27.00

D.—VERY FINE OLD VIN-

Note.—Port, after removal, should be rested for a month before use.

Wine required for IMMEDIATE use should be ordered to be decanted before being sent out.

These Wines are specially suited fo Invalids and general use, and are too well known to need further comment.

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WHITE TURKISH TOWELS COUNTERPANES. COOKING RANGES, KITCHEN UTENSILS, and

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Hongkong, 29th August, 1903.

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CONSULTING ENGINEERS AND

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REPAIRS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

TELEGRAMS: "CARMICHAEL," Hongkong A. B. C. Code, 4th Edition. A. I Code. Lieber's Standard Code.

TELEPONE, 232. Hongkong, 20th March, 1903.

THE Beer to drink in the tropics is the Beer

4 wade in the tropics—SAN MIGUEL. made in the tropics—SAN MIGUEL.

communications intended for millientlon in The "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" should be addressed to the Editor, I, Ico House Road, and should be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Ordinary business communications should be addressed

to The Manager. The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MS., nor to return any Contribution.

SUBSCRIPTION HATES (IN ADVANCE). DATEY-\$30 per annum. WEEKLY-\$18 per anninn.

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DEATH.

SETNA -On the evening of the 24th December, at his residence, Chandanwadi, Bombay, Mr. COOVERJEE BOMANJEE SETNA. Deeply regretted, (By telegram)...

# (he Hongkong Celegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, DEC. 26, 1903:

#### LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE Board of Trade returns for November show that imports have increased by £3.605,335 and exports decreased by £1,610,445.

IT is reported that the s.s. Saladin, which has been dismasted, is to be towed to Penang by the s.s. Hyson. She will be used as a tobacco hulk in Penang.

THE name of Mr. Alfred Wright has been added to the list of authorised architects under section 7 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903.

THE Universal Gazette states that as war is inevitable between Russia and Japan, China has definitely resolved to co-operate with Japan in opposing Russia.

MR. John Roberts has again been playing billiards at Taiping. In a match against Mr. Cumming at the New Club, he won easily after conceding his opponent 750 in 1,000.

H.E. THE Officer Administering the Government has given his assent, in the name and on behalf of the King, to the Ordinance to amend The Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903, (No. 1 of 1903).

THE C. N. steamer Pasting upon arriving at Shanghai from Swatow, reported having sighted N. 3 W. 51 miles off Turnabout a large junk, with bow 6 feet above water, having been sunk by collision. Dangerous to navigation.

A COLLISION has taken place between the Greek steamers Assos and Pyloros at Athaca. The bows of the Pyloros containing the second class cabin were crushed in and flooded and fifty passengers were killed and drowned.

An article by Lord Hindlip has appeared in the Nineteenth Century which dwells on the great potentialities in East Africa, and urges making it a colony under the Colonial Office with practical and experienced men sympathising with the white settlers, to assist the Commissioner.

EXPERT geological reconnaissances made in western and southern Somaliland, point to the existence of extensive and copious artesian systems at a depth varying from a hundred, to a thousand feet. Also to a subterranean supply along dry wadys at a depth of thirty to a hundred feet.

THE King has not been advised to exercise his power of disallowance with respect to Ordinance No. 16 of 1903, repealing the Water-works Consolidation Ordinance, 1902, and providing for and regulating the water supply in Hongkong, and for the maintenance and repair of the works in connection therewith.

GUN practice will take place from Stonecutters Island (West and East Batteries) in a southwesterly direction at ranges from 600-to 4,000 yards, on the 1st of January, 1904. If the weather is unfavourable on this date, practice will take place on the 2nd of January. Practice will commence at 9 a.m. and end about 11 a.m., if the range is clear.

THE Tueng Wen Hu Pao learns that recently there was a fight between the Covernment troops and the Kuangsi rebels numbering over three hundred. On the 3rd of this Moon the city gate of Liu-Chou was closed, and thorough search was made for rebels, resulting in the capture of about a hundred, and on the next day these were decapitated.

THE Tung Wen Hu Pao hears that recently the gentry class of Kiangsi held a meeting amongst themselves to discuss methods of procedure regarding the mining affairs of that province. During that meeting a resolution was passed, and this resolution was eventually sent in to Governor Hya who promptly took up the matter in hand intending to memorialize the Throne on the subject.

IT is notified in the Gazette that the Secretary. of State for the Colonies has intimated to H.E. the Officer Administering the Government that His Majesty the King has approved of the appointment of the Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson as an Official Member of the Executive Council, and also of the appointment of the Hon. Basil R. H. Taylor as an Official Member of the Legislative Council for so long as he acts in 1355e the office of Harbour Master.

> THE Beer to drink in the tropics is the Beer THE Beer to drink in the tropics is the Beer

THE Officer Administering the Government has, with the approval of the Secretary of State; for the Colonies, appointed Mr. J. H. Kemp to be assistant secretary to the Sanitary Board, with effect on and from the 1st of January, 1904.

THE game of football, as now played, is nothing but legalised assault and battery and premeditated murder; athletes of the better class are giving it up. The abolition of football by Act of Parliament may yet have to be seriously considered .- Sydney Bulletin,

ACCORDING to the Press of Odessa, the Committee of the so-called Volunteer Fleet intends to give orders for four new ocean-going steamers to replace those sold lately to the Ministry of Marine. These new steamers are to be of the same type as the Vekaterinoslav and the Vladimir, and with the carrying capacity of the Karan. It has not been decided yet whether these new boats will be built in the shipbuilding yards at Nivolaieff, on the Black Sea, or in an English yard.

In order to avoid conflict of authority, Viceroy Tsen Chun-hsuan of Liang Kwang memorialized the Throne sometime ago asking that the military command in Kwangsi be vested solely in Governor Ko Feng-shih of that Province. As no reply was given by the Throne to his application, the Viceroy again memorialized to the same effect and an edict has now been issued granting his request and appointing. Ko Fung-shih to take sole charge of the military campaign/in Kwangsi,-Ex.

#### CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES.

IN HONGKONG.

Though Christmas in Hongkong is not at tended with the same pleasures and familiar joys traditional to the Homeland, no evidence was there is at the same time much more mitth wanting yesterday that the inhabitants of our Colony, both young and old, in all classes of than with us. On Christmas Eve the children the community, did their utmost to celebrate offer their presents to their parents, while on the occasion with the usual brio, feasting and | the day itself the parents give theirs; the general fellowship we are used to associate scenes, on both occasions, an on-looker has with the Anglo-Saxon Yuletide. It would observed, being very affecting. Quite by itself have been difficult, in this part of the world, to is a custom once known in an Italian province, secure more propitious weather for the holl- where, on this day of peace and good-will, the day, the weather being cool, bright and dry; in consequence of which trippers to Macao, excursionists into the New Territory and the members of the numerous yachting, and picnic parties had a most enjoyable day. In Hong- Christmas tree, though associated with Gerkong itself the festive season was kept up with all the enthusiasm that it merits. The ships in the harbour were dressed and carried at their mast-heads and yard-arms bunches of verdure that did duty for the absent holly and misletoe. The hotels, police-stations, barracks and the Civil Hospital put on their Christmas garb, and, from an early hour, the evident good humour and gaiety of all Hongkongites, one chanced to meet, gave proof that the European portion of the population had woke up with the intention of keeping Christmas in the good old style.

THE POLICE DANCE.

Members of the police force met at No. 7 Police Station last night to hold the annual dance. The ball-room was lavishly decorated with flags | protect the house against fire, though it was and appropriate mottoes, and tastefully festooned with ferns and flowers. The exterior of the ball-room and the drill-ground was bedecked with strings of Chinese lanterns, which, as they swayed in the breeze, added considerably to the charm of the scene. About two hundred members of the force and their friends attended, and joviality was the order of the evening. Inside the ball-room numerous were the dancers that held the floor, while votaries of the green cloth found distraction in the card room. Features of the evening were a Strathspray and Reel, Miss Drumond, of Perth, and Reel of Tulloch by Mr. J. Sinclair. In one of the rooms below, an excellent supper was provided and most heartily appreciated by all. The arrangements were in the hands of a committee composed of the following :- Chief Inspector Baker, President; Chief Detective Inspector Hanson, Chairman; Inspector P. McNab, Vice-Presi dent; Lance Sergeant Lee, Sergeant Floyd Sergeant Hill, Police Constables Pitt, White, Cooper, and Last. The dance programme was entrusted to Police Sergeant Grant, who is to be congratulated on the excellent manner in which he fulfilled his duties as Master of Ceremonies. Great praise is due to the Hon. Secretary, Sergeant McDonald, who, with Inspector McNab, worked hard to ensure the enjoyment of all present, the success of their efforts being evident in the complete success o the function.

THE ARMY AND NAVY. As usual, our sailors and soldiers were to the fore in their rejoicings. High junketings took place on board the men-of-war in the harbour and the lower-deck was feasted in high style Jack drank to the health and success of his officers, who came down to his quarters and in return, toasted the "man behind the gun." At the Naval Yard, the quarters of the Yard Police were elaborately adorned with bunting, and every preparation was made by its occupants to have a "right good time." At 11 a.m. Rear-Admiral and Mrs. Robinson, Commander and Mrs. Dawes and other officials visited the men. The Chief of the Station expressed his satisfaction at the excellent manner in which they had served under his orders, complimented them on the tasteful decorations displayed and drank to their health, success and well being. The members of the corps then sat down to an excellent spread and a

most enjoyable afternoon was spent. Nor was the Army behind in keeping up the spirit of our English Xmas, and in the barracks of all the corps in garrison the non-commissioned officers and men feasted, and feted. The traditional visits were paid to the different messes by the officers and toasts were exchange ed. No untoward incident marred the general good feeling prevalent during the day and with civilian, Jack and Tommie alike Christmas in Hongkong was a rattling good time.

made in the tropics—SAN MIGUEL

CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS.

In the days before histrionic talent had much opportunity to crystalliso itself in theatres. many Christmas customs took the aspect of dramatic performances. The now see largefeaded pigmies and Christmas fairies while sitting at ease at the pantomime; but, with our ancestors, the mumniers who represented to them a similar form of amusement, strolled from house to house, and street to street, sometimes—it is recorded—even invading the parish church. Christmas time was one huge, spectacular entertain, ent, and the simpler the nation, the more noticeable a tendency to dramatise either the event which yesterday celebrated, or some old custom that has become identified with it. Even in these modern days, these old customs linger among the less civilised nations. The mountaineers of Servia appoint a Christmas guest, called a "Polaznik," whose duty it is to approach the household this important marning, and announce the birth of Christ. He then scatters corn about the floor while the housewife, responding, "Verily, He is horn," flings a handful in his face; but what the symbolic meaning of this action may be is not explained. A lengthy dialogue is then gone through, during which the "Polaznik" receives and gives numerous presents; ceremonies of a similar nature taking place during the day. In German villages for the "Poleznik" is substituted our familiar Lather Christmas, attired in white, with a gilt or pink belt. But he is accompanied by a retainer unknown to English children-a certain Knight Rupertwhose duty it is to carry the huge bag of toys for his master, and empty the contents out before the wondering children. A touch of solemnity is added to the ceremony by the fact that if the Father hears a bad account of the children from their parents, he leaves, instead of playthings, a rod, with strict injunctions not to be sparing in its use. In Germany and much more sentiment about this festival women were wont to drag all old bachelors into the church and beat them well, as a reminder to marry before next Christmas. Like many other adjuncts of this season, the

many, is a relic of Paganism, having been first known in Egypt. A palm tree was used by this nation at the time of the winter solstice to symbolise the completed year, as this plant puts forth a branch every month, and by the time mentioned the branches would number twelve. The Yule log had also its peculiar ceremonies, less observed in England now than formerly, and for obvious reasons completely omitted from a Hongkong Christmas festival. In some places the log really consisted of two small oak trees, which were covered with silk ribbons, flowers, etc. brand of the log was always kept in the house till next Christmas, and was supposed to noticed that even the most superstitious housewife gave her chimney a good cleaning some three days previous to the ceremony, to guard the grand stand, where the water course contingency in the depth of winter. A woman who was flat-footed was also never allowed to approach flames as sacred almost as those of Vesta. In Burgundy the children find their gifts, not in their stocking as with us, but at each end of the log, which they fancy grows

these playthings as a kind of magic fruit. Shakespere states that at this season of the year, "No spirit dare stir abroad," but the Swedish peasantry hold a different opinion, for on Christmas Eve they fancy that witches have more power than usual, and therefore remain indoors all that night. In case the hens might be affected by the maligninfluence, and refuse to lay, they are careful to put a little straw, into their nests. A prettier superstition, once universal, is to the effect that for one hour after midnight on Christmas Eve, animals are gifted with reason and speech, while an ancient belief. existe that on this day lost souls ceased to suffers, and enjoyed a few hours' respite from

Something of the old earth worship common to Pagan nations is to be found even nowaday in the Christmas rites of some English counties. In Devonsh re hot cakes and cider are offered as a sacrifice to the chief apple-tree, as a hint to it to bear good fruit in the oncoming year, pistols being let off and songs sung as an additional reminder. In other districts spiced ale is sprinkled on some of the fields, while i llampshire something of the same ceremony is gone through, to the accompaniment of rough

"Apples and pears and right good corn Come in plenty to everyone; Eat and drink good cake and hot ale, Give Earth to drink shell not fail." In Marmion, Sir Walter Scott, gives, a plea sing picture of an old-time Christmas, when he describes how. "The great hall table's oaken face,

Scrubbed till it shone the day to grace,

Bore then upon its massive board No mark to part the squire and lord." Temporary equality between servant and master was a feature, of old Christmases, and sometimes led to considerable licence in the festival week. A similar custom was observed during the Roman Saturnalia; from which many of our Christmanguagensioned are deflyed. A relic of this old freedom is said to exist Cheshire, where the farmers are put to much inconvenience, because their servants go off in a body on Christmas Eve, not returning to their duties till New Years Day. The interval they spend in merry making in the city, putting up at an inn at night. This custom is naturally regarded with aversion by the housewives

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upon it, for he goes off holiday making

according to his own sweet will and lancy, and

stays away altogether.

FINANCIAL RETURNS.

The financial returns for the period, January ist to October 31 t, 1903, are jublished in the Gasette. The actual revenue during the ten months was \$3,802,432.63, as against \$3,432,557.29 for the same period of the preceding year. To this has to be added revenue derived from land sales, totalling \$499,236 26 as against \$73.342.27 collected during the sair e period of the preceding year. The total increase under the various ems in revenue was \$831 092.06, and the only decrease, miscellaneous receipts is \$35,322.73. The expenditure for the ten months under review, was \$4,380,095.30 as against \$4,854.451.56. The total increases amounted to \$678,245.52 against which is a total decrease, under various head ings, of \$1,152,601.78, including \$19,364 25; Public Works, extraordinary, \$629,900 28, miscellaneous services, and \$24,265.06, Public Works, recurrent On the 31st October here was a total balance in hand of \$372,418.25 \$350,875.94 being in Hongkong and \$21,542.31 with the Crown Agents.

#### TURE TOPICS.

Twelve subscription Chinapony griffins, being he fourth batch from Shanghai, arrived per the s.s. Kwong Sang yesterday, and were drawn for in the afternoon in the presence of a large concourse of local sporting men. Among those nuticed were Sir Paul Chater, Major Radeliffe, Messrs. Rutter, Macdonald, Clarke, Hart Buck, Kadoorie, Michael, Brutton, J. H. Lewis, and his partner, H. P. White, who arrived in the Colony by the German mail looking as fit as ever. The result of the drawing was as fol-

· Nos. 56 and 57—J. II. Lewis. Made good running at Shanghai, and are regarded as the best of the batch on time trials.

No. 58-W. E. Gray.

" 59-E. Kadoorie. ,, 60-J. H. Lewis.

" 61-Major Radcliffe. The slowest pony on trial, but a fine looking animal, and a thorough racer.

, 62-M. jor Radcliffe. " 63-Macdonald.

" 61-W. E. Gray.

" 65-H. N. Mody.

, 63-E. H. Hinds.

, 69-Morgan Phillips. Eight animals, expected by the next boat will complete the lot of ponies from Shanghar.

The Kwong Sang also brought a number of Derby griffins and other crack ponies, including three Derby griffins for Mr. Mody; two for Mr. Kadoorie; one for Ewos, also the famous racers, Set, Polka, Rajah; one Derby for Mr . H. Lewis, together with his old ponies Muscatel and Starling, and others in charge of the trainer, Mr. Currum; and one Derby pony for Mr. Simpson.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.] THE RACE COURSE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH,"

. Sir,—Persons frequenting Happy Valley, must have noted with satisfaction, the various modifications being carried out on the Race Course. Work is now in progress in front of against the leaping of these Christmas flames. | being concreted and bricked in, and I feel sure It was commonly held that ill-luck would fall | that many persons interested in the training of on the house if the Yule log while burning was | the animals for the races would greatly appreapproached by a person that squinted or was ciate any steps which would hasten the combare-footed—the latter hardly being a likely pletion of this much-needed improvement. At present considerable inconvenience is occasioned by reason of the various materials lying about in all directions, and if the authorities could be induced to provide additional labour, and arrange for the contractors working overtime, so that the improvements may be carried out with greater expedition, the many ladies and gentlemen who are in the habit of watching the training—the most interesting part of the racing season-would undoubtedly appreciate the effort.—Yours, etc.

CHARIOTEER. Hongkong, 26th December, 1903.

## COMMERCIAL

Shanghai advices, dated 19th inst. repor business done:—Shanghai, and Hongkew Wharf shares at Tls. 2171 for March Fainham, Boyds at Tls. 127/1274 for December, and Tls. 128 for March. Pulps at Tls. 110. Langkats at Tis. 315 cash, Tis: 315 for December, and Tis. 330 for March.

WBBKLY SHARB REPORTS.

In their report, dated 24th inst., Messrs, Benjamin, Kelly and Potts, write:--

To-morrow being Christmas Day, we are issuing our circular one day earlier than usual During the period under notice, transactions put through have been few and far between and call for no special comment, beyond the fac that Langkats and Farnhams have weakened in hanghai, probably owing to the approaching settlement there which is reported to be a cavy one. We take the opportunity of wishing our constituents, one and all, a very Happy

Banks.-Hongkong and Shanghai Panks are weaker, no doubt due to the critical state of political affairs in the North, and we make the closing quotation \$665. The sterling price in I ondon has further declined to £63. Nationals have appreciated and are in request

Marine Insurances. - Unions have been fixed at \$190 and more shares are offering, otherwise there is no business to report in stocks under

Fire Insurances.-Hongkong Fires keep steady at \$310, while China Fires have risen to \$90 at which rate shares are in demand,

Shipping .- Jongkong, Canton and Macao but the Hongkong servant has improved Steamboats have been disposed of at \$32 and now close at \$311. Indo Chinas are quiet at \$76. Star Fories (old) have been the medium

> THE Beer to drink it the tropics is the Beer Lamade in the tropics—SAN MIGUEL.

terbu iness at \$30; the new shares are steady at 5.9. Shell Transports have declared an interim dividend of one shilling per share for 1903, and on the strength of this news the stock has firmed, and there are inquiries for shares after sales at £1 2/6. Other stocks in this section are unchanged at last week's quo-

Refineries. - China Sugars have eased off and are on offer at \$105.

Mining.—There is absolutely nothing doing locally. Punjoms have fallen to \$1 and Raubs to \$7. Chinese Engineering continue in demand in Shanghai at Tls 6.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns,-The weak. ness in Hongkong and Whampon Docks recorded in our last issue has disappeared and shares are now inquired for at \$208. Farnhams have not maintained their position and sales are reported from the North at Tls. 117 ex the interim dividend of Tls 5 paid on the 22nd instant. Kowloon Wharves are to be had at \$97. Hongkew Wharves have been parted with in Shangbar at Tls. 215.

Lands, Hotels and Buildings .- Hongkong Lands have changed hands at \$1571 clo ing with sellers at \$157. Shanghai Lands have advanced to Tls, 105 at which rate sales have been effected Hongkong Hotels have againfound buyers at \$148. Humphreys' Estate are are in strong demand at \$11, but there are no shares coming out. China Providents have been negotiated at 191

Cotton Mills,—Ewos can be obtained at Tls. 34 ex the dividend of Tls. 4 paid in Shaughai on 22nd instant. Quotations for the other Mills are unaltered,

Cigar Companies.—Sumatras have been bo ked at Tls; 52.

Miscellaneous.-Green Island Cements bave changed hands at \$25... China Borneos are wanted at \$%. A. S. Watsons can be placed at \$147. Geo. Fenwicks have been done at the further enhanced rate of \$49, and are still inquired for. William Powells have buyers at \$9. We make Tramways \$300 ex the dividend of \$10 due to-day, Owing to forced sales for the settlement in Shanghai, Langkats have suffered a decline in value, and transactions at Tls. 305 have taken place.

Messra. Erich Georg & Co. write, under date, 24th inst. :-

Owing to the Christmas holidays, our circular is issued to-day, instead of on Saturday. Since the issue of our last circular only a moderatebusiness has been transacted, and rates have not undergone any very material change, although the political outlook has effected some slocks, notably Bank shares. The sterling demand rate on London is 1s. 8 9/16, while the rates on Shanghai are unchanged, viz. Tis. 71% for a T/T, and Tis. 71% for three days sight Private Bills.

Bank Shares .- A few Hongkong and Shanghais sold at \$570, but there are sellers now at \$655, while the London quotation has dropped to £63. Nationals have improved to \$31

Marine : Insurance Shares. -- Unions are still on offer at \$490, while China Traders have fallen to \$56. Other stocks under this heading unchanged!

Fire Insurance Shares.—Hongkong's are on offer at \$310. China's have been done at \$90, and a small lot can be placed now at \$901; a sale at \$93 per 31st March next has been put

Shipping Shares.-Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat shares changed hands in small lots at \$321 to \$311, and a few shares are for sale at \$311. Indo-China's, after advancing to \$77, with a rise in the North to Tls. 56, have gone back to \$76, the latest quotation from the North being Tls. 541. China and Manila's have sellers at \$18, and Douglases are offering at \$30. Star Ferries sold at \$30 for old, while new shares are quoted \$19. Shell Transports sold at 22s. 6d. to 23s. closing with sellers at latter rate.

Refineries.—China Sugars have been done at \$105, \$104, \$103 and \$104, closing with sellers at \$105. Luzons unchanged.

Mining Shares.-- Unchanged. Hocks, Wharves, and Godowns.-Hongkong and Whampon Dock Company shares sold at \$204 to \$207, and shares could probably be placed now at \$208. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co. shares improved to \$98, but this rise was not maintained, and the market closes with sellers at \$97. Amoy Docks are unchanged. Farnhams are weaker in the north and the closing quotation is sellers at Tis. 1172 ex the interim dividend of Tis. 5 per share paid on 22nd instant. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves have receded to Tis. 215.

Lands, Hotels, and Buildings .-- Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co. shares, after improving to sales at \$158, are on the market at \$157. Kowloon Lands unchanged, and so are West Points. Hongkong Hotels have been fixed at \$148, closing with sellers at that rate. Humphreys have buyers at \$11.

Cotton Mills.-Unchanged in values. The Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company paid the dividend of Tls. 4 per share on 22nd instant, which accounts for the drop in the rate

Miscellaneous.—Green Islands sold at \$244 and \$25, and have sellers at litter rate. China Bomeos have improved to buyers at \$81 Watsons sold and are wanted at \$141. Fenwicks fetched \$49, and at that figure, there are buyers. Tramways are quoted \$300 ex the dividend of \$20 per share paid to-day. China Providents bave been fixed at \$91. Langkats, after sales at Tis. 3124 cash and Tis. 3274 per 30th April, are weaker in the north and quoted

## SHIPPING AND MAILS

MAILS DUE. Australian (Zaiyuan) to-morrow.

Indian (Gregory Apear) 29th inst. French (Polynesien) 30th inst. American (Hongkong Maru) 31st inst. Canadian (Athenian) 5th prox. American (China) 10th prox.

The O. & O. S. S. Co.'s s.s. Gaelie with mails, &c., is due here to-morrow at 8 a.m. "The N. Y. K. s.s. Kasuga Maru (Australian Line) left Manila for this port yesterday, and is expected to arrive here on 28th inst.

The N. Y. K. s.s. Awa Maru (Europe in Line) left Singapore for this port on 24th inst. and is expected to arrive here on 30th inst.

HE Beer to drink in the tropics is the Beer Lamado in the tropics—SAN MIGURL,

#### Russia and Japan.

LONDON, 23rd December. Viscount Hayashi announces that the offers of services he has received are so numerous that it is impossible to reply dividually. He therefore repeats through the Press that Japanese law, will not permit of foreigners serving in a military capacity. He expresses his appreciation of the sym- J. N. Briser, US.N. Mr. H. Eilles, Mr. and we came S. pathy thus shown.

Despatches from Tokio emphatically con tradict the statement that Japan is attempting to raise funds in New York.

Reuter's Agency at Tokio wires that there is incessant activity at Military headquarters; transport and other arrangements, are complete and the Government calmly awaits the Rev. Bahr and family. Mr. Geo. Brown, Russian reply.

24th December. The Standard's correspondent at Tokio wires that, after the last conference M. Komura Rosen; the Japanese Minister at St. Petershurg, was instructed by telegraph to press for an early answer and to point out the danger of delay. At the last conference of the Cabinet and senior statesmen it was decided that Japan would have to make an appeal to arms if her demands were refused

The Russian Force in the Far East. It is stated in Odessa that the last two Volunteer steamers for the Far East conveyed 52 haval guns of various calibres and 18 quick firers for the Pacific Squadron.

#### Bye Election.

A Chamberlainite-Unionist has been elected at Ludlow.

### France and Italy.

A Franco-Italian arbitration treaty has been concluded, similar to the Anglo-Italian treaty.

#### ⊅hipping.

Haiphong 21st Dec., and Hoihow 22nd, Mrs. C. H. Cunningham, Messrs. F. W. Carthy Haiching, Br. s.s., 1,230, Passmore, 20th Dec., Rice and Pigs.-!. & Co. -Foochow via Amoy 23rd Dec., Gen.-O. W. Zeeb, Rev. Ole Rehrends, Misses Anna

Hong Bee, Br. s.s., 2,056, Peters, 24th Dec., - C. Schlifter, Mot. Shishido, W. Fumes and Singapore 15th D. c. Gen.-Chinese. Bayern, Ger. s.s., 3,1 8, Formes, 25th Dec.,-Hamburg 11th Nov., and Singapore 18th Dec., Mails and Gen.-M. & Co.

Kingsing, Br. s.s., 1,223, Leisk, 25th Dec ... Wuhu 18th Dec., Rice.-J., M. & Co. Yushun, Ch. s s., 1,079 Pratt, 25th Dec .--Shanghai and Swatow 24th Dec., Ballast, -C. M. S. N. Co.

Tamsui 22nd Dec, Gen.-O. S.-K. Haitan, Br. s.s., 1,18, Roach, 25th Dec ... Amoy 24th Dec., Gen.-D., L. & Co. Lydeo, Ger. s.s., 1,772, Girstentran, 25th Dec., mura. -Chinking 19th Dec., Rice, Ground-nuts

and Oil.—H. A. L. Choysang, Br. s.s., 1,124, Roope, 25th Dec.,-Shanghai and Ewatow 21st Dec., Gen,-].

Mausang, Br. s.s., 1,614, Rolfe, 25th Dec., Pitsanulek, for Swatow. Borneo Ports 19th Dec., Timber.-J., M. & Mathilde, Ger. s.s., 678, Ulderup, 25th Dec.,-

Hoihow 24th Dec., Gen.-J. & Co. Elita Nossack, Ger. s.s., 1,161, Wendt, 251's Dec.,-Moji 17th Dec., Coals-B. & Co. Hoihao, Fr. s.s., 509, Merlees, 25th Dec,-Haiphong and Hoihow 23rd Dec., Rice,-A. R. M.

Tingsang, Br. s.s., 1,041, King, 25th Dec,-Canton 24th Dec., Gen.-J., M. & Co. Lodsen, Norw. s.s., 757, Meyer, 25th Dec.,-Canton 24th Dec, Gen.-E. A. T. Co. Hanyang, Br. s.s., 1,206, Haswell. 25th Dec.,---Canton 2 th Dec, Gen .- B. & S.

Avoca, Br. s.s., 3,401, Fausset, :6th Dec .-Rangoen, &c. 12th Dec., Gen.- .. M. & Euplectella, Br. s s., 2,507, Stott, 26th Dec.,-

Nagasaki 21st Dec., Petroleum.-Order. Benledi, Br. s.s., 1,481, Clark, 26th Deca-Singapore 17th Dec., Gen.-G., L. & Co. Rosetta Maru, Jap. s.s., 2,402, Smith, 26th Dec, Choysang, for Canton. -Manila 22nd Dec., Gen.-T. K. K. Apping. Ch. s.s., 1,158, Richards, 26th Dec.,-Cauton 25th Dec., Gen.-C. M. S. N. Co. Loongmoon, Ger. s.s., 1,245, Schultz, 26th Dec., -Snanghai 23rd Dec, Gen.-S. & Co.

Meeloo, Ch. s.s., 1,321, Whitelow, 26th Dec,-Shanghai 22nd Dec., Gen.—C. M. S. N. Yiksang, Br. s.s., 1,235, Bowker, 26th Dec.,-Caiston 25th Dec., Gen.-J., M. & Co. Yochow, Br. s.s., 801, Brown, 26th Dec.,-

Canton 25th Dec., Gen.-B. & S. Passengers arrived.

Per Haitan, from Amoy--110 Chinese. Per Hong Bee, from Singapore-800 Chie.

Per Avoca, from Rangoon, &c .- 655 Chinese, and 2 Japanese. Per Meefoo, from Shanghai-Mr. J. Harvey, and to Chinese.

The

BURGUNDY,

BEAUNE, .....per case \$14.00

POMMARD, ....

For Loongmoon, from Shanghai-Mr. H.

Blehr and 89 Chinese. Per Bonledi, from Singapore -Miss' Clark Leith, and Capt. T. Austin. Per Anding Maru, from Coast Ports-Mr. F. G. Kell, and 29 Chinese.

Per Resetta Maru, from Manila-Mr. and Mrs. H. White, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Rapelea, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. H. For', Mr. Hornstein, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Coueter, Mr. J. Sandridge, Mr 16th inst, R. H. Honell, Mr. A. Guerrero, Mr. L. M. Guerrero Mr. Jose Quadras, Mrs. Hempstead Mr. Tung Quia In, Mrs. E. S. Luthi Mr. A Ziegenbala Mr. Lee Tai, Mr. Pum Quan, Nr. and Mrs. H. M. Manning, Mr. A. N. Gray, Lt. Comdr. E. A. An I-rson, U.S.N., Asst Surg Meichert, U.S.N., Mr. J. R. Milkinson, Miss Frod Aldermon, Mr. Chas. A. Engelbrach

Mrs. Honell, Mr. H. F. Kended, Mr. E. A Mr. Cha , E. Richayardson, Mr. F. M. Garcia, 7° N. to arrival, and family, Mr. Gavarmull, Mr. Jivatran, Mr. A. Y Linning ton, Mr. Edward Carr, Mr. J. Chon alier, Mr. James Law, and 59 Chinese. Per Bayern, from Hamburg, &c.-Consul General Anton, Messrs. A. M. Astill, Andr. v. Berenberg-Gossler, Mr. and Mrs. E. Buttikofer, Mr. Graf A. Builer, Mr. and Mrs. A. Bartels, Mr. and Mrs. H. O Beven, Mr. Pugo Ber, e.,

Mr. and Mrs H. Crombie and child, Messrs, J. B. Corporaal, G. Cicceri, G. Chapman, Dr. and Mrs. Doenitz, Messrs. C. Digel, B. C. Follands, Miss L. Ferrier, Messrs, B. Ferrier, P. Fein, Mr. and Mrs. H. Grün, Dr. and Mrs P. J. van Gorkom, Mr. and Mrs. E. Grund, Rev. and Mrs. A. F. Groesbeck, Mr. and Mrs. Homann, child and servant, Messrs. Haupt, J. L. Houston, R. Henzler, H. E. Hanten, Dr. R. Jürgensen, Mr. A. C. Johnson, Dr. A. Kahn, Mr. and Mrs. M. de Koning and child, Messrs. J. H. Koolhoven, F. Knäpel, A. Krüger, Lamke, E. Lehrenkraus, A. Liston, C. F. de Lean, P. Luderer, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Mar tavish, Mr. G. A. Meinhold, Mr. and Mrs. E W. Maitland child and servant, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Maw. Mr. and Mrs. A. Miller and child. Messrs. Miller, Jr., G. Miller, J. M. Norman, M. Nielsen, J. Nicolai, K. Oldorp Consul W Pelizaens, Mrs. J. Pampel, Mr. K. I. Reuter, Mr. and Mrs. P. Rümcker, Dr. A. Richardson, Rev. C. Rüter, Mr. D. Roseway, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Ramsay, Misses Ina Ramsay, E. Rendle, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. van Riemsdyk, Messrs. C Struckmann, C. Sixt, Mr. and Mrs. F. Stork and child, Mrs. E. Sturken, Mr. and Mrs. G. II. Stitt, Dr. E. Schluter, Prof. Dr. Schweinfurth, Mr. H. von 'tjernsvard, Mrs. H. Schulz Mr. E. Schmersahl, Capt. J. Slaker, Mr. H. Steenberg, Miss C. Steele, Mrs. Sampson and Bourbon, Fr. s.s., 2,100, Souchere, 11th Dec.,child, Miss E. M. Sivire, Mrs. E. Salomon, Miss A. Salomon, Messrs. C. Tsugara, E Clam, Br s.s., 2,311, Evans, 23rd Dec.,-Balik Tweer, H. White, Capt. Weber, Messts. Wilh Wilkens, A. J. Wickwar, Mrs. Waring and Elg, Norw. s.s., 708, Christophersen, 17th Dec., child, Miss Waring, Mrs. E. Wheen, H. Sudermann, O. Gonnermann, Dr. G. Hirte, Mrs, H, von Francois, Miss. von Francois Holstein, Ger. s.s., 985, Hansen, 24th Dec .- Mr. Lt. O. Cecchetti, Mrs. Holmes and kind. and family, W. C. D'Harthy, G. Ritter, W.

Passongers departed.

Holland, maid and children. Mrs. Lold Frank Woodward, Mrs. Hampshire, Mrs. and Miss! Frank, Mr. Teo Eng See, Dr. Rabe, Mrs., Daijin Maru, Jap. s.s., 900, Ogata, 25th Dec., Berigny, Miss hin ling, Capt. Halland, Korea, Am. s.s., 5,65r, Seabury, 14th Dec., -Messrs. A Simon, Mrs. Wong Sam, Messrs Carron, A. F. Law, W. S. Ross, M. A. Namazu. Hayward, N. Wyesugi, S. Chujio and Tsuji-

> ्रिम अनुसर हर छन Drc. 25. Mongkut, for Bangkok. Simongan, for Amoy. Kagsohima Maru, for Japan. Lowther Castle, for Singapore. Michael Jebsen, for Haiphong.

Hailoong, for Swatow, Phuyen, for Hongay. Bin Thuan, for Saigon, Else, for Canton. Sullberg, for Canton. Deuleros, for Canton.

Bayern, for Shanghai, Ringo Marn, for Colombo. Rubi, for Manila. Chivnen, for - hanghai, Yiksang, for Chinkiang. Hailan, for Pakhoi, An Pho, for Swatow. Hallan, for Coast Ports. Vale of Doon, for Rajang, Kingsing for Canton.

#### Steamers Expected.

	Vessels	From	Agents	Due	
1	Taiyuan	Manila	B. & S	Dec.	2
;	mirosnima M.,,	MO11	IN. Y. K	Dec	7
	Gaelic	Shanghai	O. & O. Co	l'ec.	2
ļ	Yawata Maru	Moji	N. Y. K	Dec.	2
	Badenia	Singapore.	H. A. L	Dec.	2
	Kasuga Maru	Maniia	N. Y. K	Dec.	2
	Gregory Apcar.	Singapore:	D. S. & Co.	Dec.	2
• :	Polynesien	Singapore.	M2 M	Dec.	3
	Awa Matu	! SINGADORE	INVK	Dag	•
	i tr kong maru	ijapan	PAME Co ::	Dec	3
	Athenian	V ancouver	$C \cdot P : R \cdot C_A$	lian	_
ı	China	San F'Cisco	P. M. Co	Jan.	I
	Indravelli	Portland	P. & A. Co.	llan.	I

Shipping Reports. Str. Meeloo from Shanghai:-Moderate, to

strong N.E. brerze, high sea. Str. Kingsing from Wuhu:-Moderate strong N.F. wind, and fine throughout.

Str. Hong Bee from Singapore: - Experienced Argus strong N. to N.E. gale and high sea since the U.S. A.T. Sacramento

Str. Lydia from Chinkiang:-Strong N.E. winds till Turnabout Island, afterwards light

Str. Hait in from Amoy : + Experienced strong N.E. wind to the N. of Amoy, moderating as

Str. Avoca from Rangoon, etc.: -Singapore hence strong wind to moderate gale, from Lat

weather throughout. Str. Elita Nossack from Moji:-The wind blowing very strong from W.N.W. until the 21st, with a very high and rough sea; ship la-

bouring heavy; for two days had to lay hove to.

#### Ships Passed The Canal.

Outward-1st December-Gloamin, Breizhuel, Badenia, Palermo, Howick Hall, December-Polynesien, Chardouin, Nestor, Awa Maru. 8th December-Carl Chenan. 12th December-Keemun, Palma. 14th December-Macduff. 16th December-Glangyle. Shanghai, Sachsen. 18th December-Seneca, Ernest Simons, Kintuck, Kamakura Maru. 22nd December-Anienor, Rorneo, Sithonia, Gisela, Richmond Castle, Yaroslave, Kennebec.

18th December-Tantalus, Saxonia, 22nd 3 P.M. December-Hamburg. Arrivals at Home—1st December—Kent-

mere, Agamemnon, Abyssinia, Yarra. 4th December-Idomeneus. 8th December-Room, Wakasa Maru, Dharwar, Pakling. 12th December-Brisgavia, Sambia. 16th December Dec., 1 P.M. -Australien. 18th December-Glenturret. 21st December-Java. 22nd December-Indradeo, Preussen, Kanagawa Maru.

#### Vessels in Port.

STRAMBRR.

Saigon 3rd Dec., Gen.-Wing Seng. Papau 11th Dec., Liquid Fuel,-Order.

-Amoy 15th Dec., Ballast.-C. & Co. Miss Irvine Messrs, W. Eller, E. Siebert, Empress of China, Br. s.s., 3,046, Archibald, R.N.R., 22nd Dec, -Vancouver, B.C., 30th Nov., and Shanghai 19th Dec., Mails and Gen.-C. P. R. Co.

-Swatow 19th Dec., Gen.-D., L. & Co. Anping Maru, Jap. s.s., 1,053, Goto, 24th Dec., Behr. G. Kluzer, C. M. Seemann. O. Langlois, Hanoi, Fr. s.s., 739, Merlees, 24th Dec.,-Haiphong and Hoihow 23rd Dec., Gen.-Tjomsaas, Ch. Berndt, Messrs, F. Doerffel,

Hounslow, Br. s.s., 1,860, Adshead, 14th Dec., -Moraran 2nd Dec., Coal.-D., & Co., Ld, Indrasamha, Br. s.s., 3,366, Craven, 24th Dec. - Manila 20th Dec., Bamboos and Gen.-Allen Cameron. Per Ringo Maru, for London, &c.-Mrs. Kaga Maru, Jap. s.s., 3,907, Obno, 20th Dec.,

-Shanghai 17th Dec., Gen.-N. Y. K. and 4 children, Gen. and Mrs. Ferbes, Miss Kohsichang, Ger. s.s., 1,293, Spiesen, 2nd Dec., - Bangkok and Ang Hin 21st Nov., Rice. San Francisco 18th Nov., and Shanghai

12th Dec., Mails and Gen.-P. M. S. S. Marie Rickmers, Ger. s.s., 1,017, Bandelin, 23rd Dec .- Bangkok 13th Dec., Gen.-B. & S. Mercedes, Br. s.s., 2,925, McGregor, 12th Dec.,

M. Struve, Ger. s.s., 966, Brandt, 20th Dec.,-Haiphong 16th Dec., and Hoihow 19th, A Rice and Pigs,—A. R. M. Nanchang, Br. s.s., 1,062, Robinson, 22nd Dec., -Hoile and Cebu 17th Dec., Hemp.-B.

Namsang, Br. s.s., 2,591, Wheeler, 23rd Dec., Singapore 15th, Gen.—J., M. & Co. Paul Beau, Fr. s.s., 1,669, Frangeul, 19th Dec.,

-Singapore 12th Dec., Ballast,-Chan Perla, Fr. s.s., 1,287, Notley, 24th Dec.,-Cebu 19th Dec, Gen.-S., T. & Co. Selun Norw s s, 865, Fingalsen, 13th Dec ... From the Crystal Palace, London, presenting a; Canton 12th Dec., Gen -E. A. T. Co.

Shantung, Ger. s.s., 1,600, Engelhardt, 22nd Drc.,-Singapore 12th Dec., Petroleum.-Mr. McBain. Tai Lee, Ger. s.s., 1,206, Michelsen, 23rd l'ec., -Delhi 10th Dec., and Hongay 20th, Coal. A New and Novel Act by the Entire Strength

—Meyer &, Co. → Tartar, Br. s.s., 4,425, Evans, 16th Dec.,-Dec., Gen.-C. P. R. Co. Tjilatjap, Dut. 8.s., 2,478, Koops, 24th Dec.,-

Amoy 22nd Dec., Gen.-Hotz s'Jacob & Tsintau, Ger. s.s., 1,002, Koch, 23rd Dec.,-Bangkok via Swatow 12th Dec., Rice .-

Undine, Norw. s.s., 1,017, Torbjörnsen,-13th Dec.,-Moji 8th Dec., Coals.-Order. Victoria, Am. s.s., 2,500, Truebridge, 13th Dec., -Tacoma 16th Nov., Gon.-D. & Co., Ld. Wilrzburg, Ger. s.s., 3,246, Binzer, 15th Dec.,-Singapore 8th Dec., Gen,-H. A. L. Yaneyama Maru, Jap. s.s., 1,959, Yamamoto, 23rd Dec,-Moji 12th Dec., Coal.-D. &

SAILING VESSELS.

Brillian, Br. bq., 3,609, Cowlishaw, 23rd ()ct.,-Shanghai 16th Oct., Gen.—S. O. Co. Palgrave, Br. ship, 3,076, Coutts, 20th Dec.,-New York 19th May, Kerosine Oil.-S. O.

Hongkong & Whampon Dock Returns, H.M.S.-Amphiteite... nt " Kowlnon Dock H.I.G.M.S. Moowe... H.M.S. Glory ...... to Wurzburg Hongkong ..... Haiching ..... Hankow .....

Canton-Per Powin, 27th Dec., 9 A.M. Namtao-Per Taichun, 27th Dec., 9 A.M. Sanbue-Per Hoi Fu, 27th Dec. 9 A M. Str. Chovsang from Shanghai :- Moderate Macao-Per Wingchai, 27th Dec., 9 A.M. to fresh N.E. monsoon, moderate sea, and clear Canton-Per Honam, 28th Dec , 7.30 A.M. Amoy, Swatow, Straits and Rangeon-Per Avoca, 28th Dec., II A.M. Macao -Per Heungshan, 28th Dec., 1.15 P.M.

Kongmoon, Kumchuk and Samshui-Per SEE Yup, 28th Dec., 3 P.M. Namtao-Per Taichun, 28th Dec., C.P.M. Sanbue-Per Hoi Fu, 28th Dec. 5 P.M. Macao-Per IVingchai, 28th Dec , 5 P.M. Canton-Per Kinshan, 28th Dec, 5 P.M.

28th Dec., 5 P M. Holhow, Singapore and Bangkok-Per Tsintau, 28th Dec., 5 p st. "Canton "Fer Fatshan, 29th Dee , 7.30 A M. Manila - Per Rosette Maru, 29th Dec.

Europe, &c., India, wa Tuticorin-Po Salanie, 29th Dec., 11 A.M.

Canton-Per Pawin, 29th Dec , 5 P.M. Canton-Per Honam, 30th Dec., 7.30 A.M. Tacoma-Per Victoria, 30th Dec, 11 A.M. Straits and Calcutta-Per Namsang, 30th

Manilla, Port. Darwin, Thursday Island, Dec., 3 P.M.

Manila Per Kaifong, 301 - Dec , 3 P.M. Canton -Per Kinshan, 30th Dec., 5,P. M. -Per Sullberg, 1st Jan., 9 A.M. Kobe - Per Taivnan, 1st Jan , 3 P.M. Manila-Per Zafire, and Jan., 9 A.M.

Yokohama, Kobe and Tsintau-Per Radenia, 2nd Jan., 9 A.M. Europe, &c. Belle, nig futicorin-Per Kiautschou, 6th Jan., 11 A.M.

Shang at. N corah, Kale, Yokohama, Victoria and Vancouver, H.C. -- Fer Athenian, 27th Jan., 11 v.M.

#### Entertainments.

LROYAL TO-NIGHT (SATURDAY),

DECEMBER 26TH. HILL'S WORLD'S

ENTERTAINERS Will play a short season, presenting for the first time in Congkong a thoroughly Highfrom the mincipal cities in the world. THE BEST C MPANY AND THE STRONGEST COMBINATION OF TALENT EVER SEEN IN THE EAST is the unanimous opinion of the Press. The following are among

the members of the company ; HILL AND SYLVIANY, -Wellington 17th Dec., Coal.-Admiralty. IN POSITIVELY THE GREATEST CYCLE AND UNICYCLE ACT IN THE WORLD.

Continental Star Performance from the EMPIRE, LONDON, the FOLIES BERGERE, PARIS, WINTERGARTEN, BERLIN, and KEITH'S and OPPHEUM CIRCUITS, AMERICA.

KELLY and AGNAS. -Calcutta 6th Dec., Penang 11th, and Comedy Sketch Artistes, introducing Eccentric Dances, Acrobatic Comicalities and Mirthprovoking Finales.

MISS LESLIE NORMAN, New Zealand's Greatest Operatic Mezzo-

LAZERN THE MYSTIC, . novel and up-to-date exhibition of legerdeniain. LEONARD NELSON,

Iust a Plain Comedian. FUN IN SHADOWLAND, of the Company.

Vancouver 16th Nov., and Shanghai 13th Plan of reserved seats now open at Robinson's. Prices .......\$3. \$2 and \$1 Hongkong, 26th December, 1903. RAND CHARITABLE BAZAAR IN AID OF THE

BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION under the charge of the CANOSSIAN SISTERS OF CHARITY, T MACAO, TO-MORROW (SUNDAY), 27TH DECEMBER, 1903,

to'be held at the PUBLIC GARDENS, SAN FRANCISCO, (PRAIA GRANDE).

Admission Free, from z to 5 P.M. Tickets of admission for the evening, with Tickets of admission without souvenir ... 0.29 Tickets of admission without souvenir (for children)... ... ... ... ... 0.20 TICKETS on Sale at the Hotels, on Board Steamers and at the Public Gardens Gate.

Macao, 23rd December, 1903.

### duringations.

THE BRIGHT SIDE OF LIFE. It is a feeling common to the majority of us | managed and the that we do not get quite the amount of happiness we are entitled to. Among the countless things which tend to make us more or less miserable ill bealth takes first place. Hannah

More said that sin was generally to be attribu'ed to biliousness. No doubt a crippled fiver with the resulting impure blood, is the 'ause of more mental gloom than any other! single thing. A chronic dyspeptic, says an default after the above named date. eminent English physician, is always on the verge of a mental upset. And who can reckon up the fearful aggregate of pain, loss and fear arising from the many ailments and diseases which are familiar to mankind. Like a vast cloud it hangs over a multitude no one can sumber. You can see these people everywhere. For them life can scarcely be said to have any "bright side" at all. Pence the eagerness with which they search for relief and !

cure. Remedies like WAMPOLE'S PREPARATION have not attained their high position in the Holhow and Bangkok-Per Marie Richmers, confidence of the people by hald assertions and boasting advertisements. They are obliged to win it by doing actually what is claimed for them. That this remedy deserves lits reputation is conceded. It is palatable as honey and contains, the nutritive and curative properties of Pure Cod Liver Oil, combined Shanghai, Moji, Kobe. Yokohama, Victoria, with the Comp. Syrup of Hypophosphites: about 11 A.M., if the Range is clear. Homeward - 16th December - Freiburg. B.C. and Scattle-Per Kaga Maru, 29th Dec., Extracts of Malt and Wild Cherry. Nothing has such a record of success in Scrofula, : Anemia, Nervous Debility, Influenza, Throat Moji, Kobe, Yokohama, Victoria. (B.C.) and and Lung Troubles, and all emaciating complaints and disorders, that tend to undermine the foundations of strength and vigour. Its use helps to show life's brighter side. Dr. W. Cooktown, Cairns, Townsville, Brisbane, H. B. Aikins, of Canada, says: "I am pleased Sydney and Melbourne - Per Chiegtu, 30th to state that the results from using, it have be enuniformly satisfactory." You can take it with the assurance of getting well. It is a Shanghai, Chemulpo, Dalay and Port Arthur, preparation brought up-to-date and effective from the first dose. It never disappoints. At

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#### PORTLAND CEMENT.

Blookkonk, 15th August, 1903.

In Casks of 375lbs. net \$4.75 ex Factory. In Bags of 250lbs, net \$2.85 ex Factory. SHEWAN, TOMES & CO., General Managers.

F. BLACKHEAD SHIP-CHANDLERS, SALLWAYE COAL AND PROVISION WELL CHANTS, NAVAL CONTRACTO AND GENERAL COMMISSIO

AGENTS... 16, DES VŒUX ROAD JENTRAL, HONGKON class performance, introducing Star Acis SOAP AND SODA MANUFACTURERS.

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:ឧធភ P. & O. SPECIAL EPOURA SCOTCH WHISKY, &c. RVERY XIND OF SHIP'S STORFS AND REQUISITES

ALWING IN TO M REMSON TREE PRICE Hongkong, 15th December, 1993

NOTICE, FIFE Public are hereby informed that no change has been made in the Rates of

Subscription to the Hongkong Telegraph and

they are warned against paying more than

TEN CENTS (10 cts.) per Single Copy. THE MANAGER. Hongkong Telegraph Co. Ltd. Hongkong, 30th September, 1903.

Carried Carried Parties.

### Intimations.

OWNERS of HOUSES situated in the Western Division of the City of Victoria who have not had their Premises LIMEWASH-ED and CLEANSED in accordance with Law, are reminded that the period during which this work should be FINISHED ends on the 31st day of December, 1903, and the Sanitary Board being convinced of the necessity of cleanliness in its efforts to stamp out Plague, is determined-to-rigorously-prosecute-any-owner-in By Order of the Board,

> G. A. WOODCOCK, Secretary.

Note: - The Western Division of the City lies to the West Tank Lane and Cleverly Street. anitary Board Office.

1st December, 1903.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION

NFORMATION has been received from . the Military Authorities that GUN RACTICE will take place from Stonecutters Island (West and East Batteries) in a so th-Westerly direction at ranges from 600 o 4,000 yards, on the 1st January, 1904. If the weather is unfavourable on this date,

practice will take place on the 2nd of January. Practice will commence at 9 A.M. and end By Command,

A. M. THOMSON, Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office. Hongkong, 19th December, 1903.





SCOTCH

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JAMES BUCHANAN & CO. SCOTCH WHISKY DISTILLERS. By:Appointment to

B.M. THE KING HRH the PRINCE of WALES

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May be personally consulted for Spectacles,

No charge for testing the eyes. Glasses and frames of all kinds and qualities, Prices from \$2 upwards.

16, QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRAL. Hongkong, 6th November, 1903.

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SHERRY. PALE ANDALUSIA,.....per case \$ 9.50 PALE FINO,....

GREAT VARIETY OF LIQUEURS.

ALLSOPP'S LAGER BEER.

PORT. SPANISH, .....per case \$ 9.00 OPORTO, ..... OPORTO BLANCO, ....., 1884 VINTAGE, ......

JEFFEREY'S EDINBURCH STOUT AND ALE.

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CLARET. Medoc, ......per case \$ 6.00 St. Julien, ..... CHATEAU LOUDENNE,... 16.50

MANZANILLA, ....., SPARKLING-MOSELLE MUSCATEL, \$21 00.

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ACKERMAN-LAURANCE DRY ROYAL,

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AITKEN'S FALKIRK ALE.

WHISKY. PROVOST, .....per case \$ 9.00 STRATHMILL, ..... Spey Royal,....

SAUTERN-SUPERIOR \$12.00

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December 26th.

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日八初月一十年九十二結光

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1903.

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DEATH.

SETNA .- On the evening of the 24th December, at his residence, Chandanwadi, Bombay, Mr. COOVERIEE BOMANIEE SETNA. . Deeply regretted. (By telegram).

## The Pongkong Celegraph

MAIL SUPPLEMENT, ISSUED GRATIS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, DEC. 26, 1903.

LEGISLATION NEEDED.

-(19th December.) In a purely commercial centre, like Hongkongs anything which may tend to facilitate the Sha Pat Heung and Pat Yung contemporaries, the N. C. Daily News : obtain berths aboard at Hongkong, and landlordism, there are many cultivators, esdesert whenever sufficient inducement is pecially at Min Wo and Tai O, who still offered. Although we have one of the feel the burden which necessarily attends largest seaport trades in the world, little or the labours of the patient tiller of the soil. protect the mercantile community, who the sugar industry, and despite the fact that certainly require and deserve protection. the machinery imported by the Chinese was far A few days ago the British steamer superior to their primitive ideas, some other Laertes arrived from Saigon, and Captain move might easily be made to encourage Jackson reported that, when he reached the them in their work. The pine apple flour-French port, the native crew, who had lishes in the main because of the official been shipped at Hongkong, deserted and left | attention which has been paid to it; a little to have the steamer safely navigated to independent of butcher "rings", and even Russian Government to give way at last. the near future. An attempt was made last Hongkong. But his trouble did not cease the whole of the supplies of the West and Meanwhile, Japan has not been idle. Her tyear, by Mr. Delcasse, to revise the Treaty of

of the local legislature.

THE NEW TERRITORIES,

(21st December.)

By the completion of the survey of the

two coastwise strips of land from Tai Lam Chung to Tsun Wan, and Lamma Island in the New Territory, one of the final difficulties in opening up the Concession to commercial enterprise has just been overcome. The formation of districts and subdistricts, and the appointment of committeemen who would be loyal and upright in al their dealings, were among the initial troubles attending the taking over of the Concession on April 17, 1899. In the four years and eight months which have passed since the British flag was hoisted, the greatest pessimist will be bound to admit that a colossal task has been undertaken, and the ground thoroughly paved for a residential resort where a thorough sense of security can be felt, as well as a field where the enterprising capitalist need no longer fear any betrayal of his confidence. Whatever may be said of the efforts of the last local administration—and there were many carping critics, who spoke unkindly of the steps put forward at the time of the acquisition—this much can be now stated, that the officials who were sent to labour in the New Territory can now see almost the realization of their wildest hopes, and their fears for the future development of the country must fade from the memory. Three hundred and seventy square miles of land, tenanted for the most part by a complete horde of brigands as wild "in their purposes as the most bloodthirsty pirates of the West, have been practically subdued and brought under British dominion, while the land itself is, to a considerable extent, cleared from a chaotic condition, to one promising hope of great commercial development. Forty-five thousand acres, or sixty-one square miles, of land brought under cultivation for a population of one hundred thousand, who over four years ago were writhing under the lash of the ever "squeezing" mandarinate. With all the unmeasurable difficulties brought about by the physical configuration of the country an excellent road has been made eighteen miles across undulating land connecting Kowloon with Mirs Bay, and contributing to the pleasure of the citizen, as well as ensuring his immunity from attack at the hands of the ten thousand fighting Chinamen on the Canton Delta. All these, and many more, are the results of the labours of a few, who have fought with the deadly grip of malaria, and in the opening up of tradal districts in the provision is made in this respect to A more generous view could well be taken of

. .

with his arrival in British waters, as when North Rivers. The revenue of the possession larmy and navy are ready, and readiness in 1 October 3rd, 1893, by which the Siamese the ship was on the point of making the is increasing very favourably, and there is | Japan means perfection to the smallest detail. Government renounced all pretensions to return journey several of the hands left the need of no ideas of pecuniary hopes blighted | Her ally, England, has made an incidental vessel, and hasty inquiries for other men by blind faith. Even the fishermen, who last diversion by her inevitable expedition to had to be made in order that the sailing of year paid one thousand dollars in revenue | Lhassa; and, a much more important point, the steamer might not be delayed. The case | more than they did the previous year, would | Japan has succeeded, as it seems from the in question is one of the usual type only like a little more leniency, more especially as | news from the North, in bringing China too frequent in these waters. This, surely, they contributed in a great measure to the over to her side. The educated Chinese discloses the urgent necessity that exists suppression of piracy round the coast. The generally took little or no interest in the war for some sort of surveillance over the native | immeasurable resources of the New Territory | hetween China and Japan, but they seem, crews, who find berths on British vessels | should come for a great share of official | curiously enough, to be even more inin this port. Such a state of affairs should attention, and notwithstanding that the terested than the Manchus themselves in have been remedied long ago; for, whether | Chinese Syndicate have neglected the silver | recovering Manchuria from the grasp of regarded as a means of facilitating the load- mines at Lantao Island, there is abundant Russia. The existing uncertainty cannot ing or discharging of cargo, or of improving | evidence of the mineral being such as would | continue for long and (as the Japan Times the conditions of navigation, the control of repay some outlay. The whole country is states) the Japanese Nation "now unanithe shipment of native crews in the Colony | well worth attention, and capitalists will | mously demands to be speedily relieved of is a step which requires the urgent attention | probably "go farther and fare worse" by | the intolerable suspense to which it has been directing their flow into other channels of subjected during these long and weary industrial enterprise.

THE CHINA SQUADRON.

(22nd December.)

It may not be generally known that the Admiralty have been urged to augment the British naval force in the Pacific by greatly increasing the strength of the fleet at Esquimault, at Hongkong, and by the mobilisation of a cruising squadron for the Far East. The appointment of Admiral Sir Gerard Noel to the China Station mustshortly be followed by the decision of the Admiralty in regard to the incessant applications from Admiral Sir Cyprian Bridge, who is now hauling down his flag as Commander-in-Chief in these waters. His successor has served His Sovereign for over forty years and is a most able man in his profession and it is to be hoped that the Admiralty will carry out, without delay, any suggestion which he deems advisable to make for the protection of British influence in the Far East. In these waters at present Great Britain has four battleships (while another will shortly be joining the station), two modern armoured cruisers, eight protected. cruisers and older armoured cruisers, six old cruisers, seven destroyers and six torpedo boats. Japan has six battleships, six modern and 17 protected and older armoured cruisers, four old cruisers, and a torpedo flotilla, comprising two catchers, 15 destroyers, and 58 torpedo boats. Russia's fleet consists of eight battleships, two modern armoured cruisers, ten protected cruisers and older armoured cruisers, two old cruisers, three catchers, 80 destroyers and twelve torpedo boats. France is represented by a single battleship, a couple of modern armoured cruisers, five protected and older armoured cruisers, two destroyers and twelve torpedo boats. Such is the relative strength of the fleets in the Far East, and a correspondent in China, who is cognisant of all the facts in relation to the matter, aptly puts it: "! war comes suddenly and the requests of the Admiral remain unknown and unanswered what is to happen?"

RUSSIA AND JAPAN.

(23rd December.) There can be no possible doubt as to the acuteness of the present political situation in the North, and each wire that reaches us, either from home or from Japan, brings information to the effect that the tension is hourly growing, and may reach the breaking point at any instant. Owing to the many been the pioneers towards bringing about a changes in the aspect of the situation since healthy condition of things—no small factor | the beginning of the year, so that at one time war seemed certain and on the morrow those, Far East. There is, however, a great deal that were supposed to know, declared that more to be done, and with the completion | peace was assured, it is of interest to of the contemplated road to Lai Chi Kok | consider a retrospective summary of the which will be a connecting link with Chin | events leading up to the present crisis, ] Wan, on the Castle Peak, and then round as it is given by one of our leading Eastern, shipping business must possess a certain valleys, the principal portions of the For nearly six months the Japanese Cabinet, amount of interest for at least a substantial New Territory will be within easy access its temper moderated by the efforts of the portion of the community. We have, on of Kowloon and Hongkong. There is Elder Statesmen and its friends in Europe a born cultivator, and now that the New several occasions, demonstrated the necessity need of further Government effort to and America, has been endeavouring to get of legislation being enacted to safeguard the assist the farmers in their endeavours to Russia to come to terms, and during the whole interests of ship-owners and masters from cultivate the land, and although the Land of this period Russia has been etraining the loss of money and time entailed by rea- Court has done a great deal towards dissi- every nerve to augment her military and naval son of the shipment of worthless hands, who pating the general Celestial idea of grinding strength in the Far East, and to ensure the assistance, or at any rate the benevolent Government for the furtherance of their neutrality, of France and Germany. Nearly efforts. two months ago, Mr. Kurino, the Japanese Minister, presented his country's irreducible minimum to the Russian Government, whose reply was only received in Tokio a week ago, Russia's preparations for war continuing all' tude of the reports contained in many of the the time. The reply is entirely unsatisfac- latest home papers, concerning an impendtory for "to make partial concessions is ing rupture of the diplomatic negotiations futile; and an enduring "settlement of between France and Siam-and little faith the Manchurian question is necessary." The can be placed in a recent announcement only hope is now that the Czar's sincere that the authorities in Indo-China are masshim to find substitutes as best he could. It more of that attention might well be direct love of peace, and the consciousness of the ling troops at Chantabom—it is nevertheless. was not until he had put himself to very ed towards the growing of succulent gras. Russian Ministers of the danger to Russia certain that the vexed question of the ownergreat inconvenience and trouble that he was ses for cattle grazing on the hill slopes in her present unsettled internal condition ship of the right bank of the Mekong River able to secure sufficient hands to enable him which in time might render Hongkong of a possible reverse; may persuade the lis likely to lead to serious complications in and Yokknight, was stranged yester-

months." There can be no doubt that the | under the administration of France, but that very existence of the Empire of Nihon will | the territories, of which Korat and Bussak depend on the results of its struggle with the | are the principals towns, should also be added Colossus of the North. That the sympathy of | to the possessions of the Republic. Their the majority of the British Nation will plea is that the country was formerly be with the smaller of the contesting wrested by the Siamese from Cambodia, parties there is not the slightest doubt, and | now a French protectorate. It is certain all Englishmen will look towards our own that in the negotiations, now going on Government to uphold by its attitude our most cherished traditions, by staunchly affording all moral support to our ally, awaiting the necessity of our actual intervention.

OUR FOOD SUPPLY.

(24th December.) Commercial circles in Hongkong will be interested to learn that a Celestial syndicate is in course of formation for the importation of Shorthorn bulls, for stud purposes, in the New Territory. The step is the outcome of a Government report on the condition of the pasture land on the hilly slopes beyond Kowloon. The move is one of no mean the memories of the past. Bitter though importance, as it is likely to improve the they may sometimes be, when looking well-being of the European inhabitants of | through the vista, we can generally bring the Colony. The food supply has always to mind some brighter souvenir giving to been a burning question, and one upon our sombre regrets a certain sweetness. which there has been much diversity of To-day, the spirit of that "Peace on Earth" opinion. Vegetarians have held that there has as much force as it did when it went is danger in greenstuffs in consequence forth from the manger at Bethlehem. of Chinese methods of cultivation, and lingers in our memories with the vitality others have looked to rice as the prin- of old, unmarred by time, infusing in our cipal-cereal for the table. There have been sentiments a desire for good-will towards many who have expressed an opinion that, our fellow men. Now comes to us the in the event of hostilities, both Hong- return of our former hopes and aspirations, kong and the mainland could be cut off and we cast to the four winds all the with, practically, no source of supply; recriminations of the past twelve. months. and others have urged that the Government should do something towards perfecting the victualling of its subjects. The general cry—even at this time when the bountiful hand is held forth in every direction —is, "The price of food has again increased." It is the complaint of the hour, and one which is voiced in many a petition to the authorities for better pay, and a more liberal consideration for services rendered. contemplated effort to import English cattle is not altogether new, but it opens up a tremendous thought for those who are one of our readers will pass interested in the welfare of the Colony. There are now over two thousand head of cattle in the Colony, the best portion of which are for export to Manila. Four or five steamers leave every week for the Philippines with their live freights, carrying away absolutely the pick of the market. There are over one hundred head kept in reserve for troops, inclusive of the naval supplies. From the West and North rivers the importations are increasing, and with the steady growth of the population, the meat supply must always form a special item of tradal interest. 'Cattle dealers have not always been successful in their undertakings here, and there have been many reasons why herds

THE SIAMESE QUESTION.

have not flourished. Pasture land requires

considerable cultivation, and where it has

been undertaken by those who are, so to

speak, indigenous to the soil, it has almost

always turned out fruitful. The Celestial is

Territories are becoming to be regarded in

more than the light of "A.White Elephant,

Though there are doubts as to the exacti-

the left bank of the river and the whole of the different islands. A new treaty was drafted which met with the approval of the statesmen of both countries, but the Chamber of Deputies, influenced by the French Colonial Party, at whose head is M. Doumer, the former Governor-General of Indo-China, refused to ratify the terms of the new agreement. Desirous of gaining time, and to avoid the defeat of the Ministry on question of secondary importance, M. Delcassé announced that the discussion on the question would be delayed until December this year, the treaty of 1893 remaining the modus vivendi in the meanwhile. The Colonial Party in Paris claim that, not only the right bank of the Mekong should come between the Quai d'Orsay and the Siamese Plenipotentiary, have as their main object the discovery of a "middle way," likely to be acceptable to the progressive colonials in the susceptibilities of national sentiment in Siam. However, it is just possible that, profiting by the gravity of the crisis in the north, France's statesmen might judge the moment opportune to seize and occupy, manu militari, the contested territories.

#### CHRISTMASTIDE.

The return of another Christmas recall We, in the Far East, should specially feel this season of goodwill, being for the most part exiles from the Motherland—the objects of our cherished affections, and our ties of boyhood friendships afar and overseas Yet can we find some compensation in the assurance that in the Homeland the absent ones are not forgotten, and in extending our good wishes to those, who like ourselves, are fighting life's battles in this distant corner o our Empire. Whole hearted is our wish and cordial our desire that each and every

"A MERRY XMAS."

TELEGRAMS

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH"

SERVICE.

WAR IMPENDING.

GRAVE DISCUSSION

ULTIMATUM SUGGESTED.

(Hrom Our Own Correspondent.)

London, 18th December.

6.55 p.m. Your, London correspondent is in formed in Paris, by a very reliable authority, that there may be a delay of several days before Japan's reply to his partner, H. P. Whi'e, who arrived in the the Russian note is handed over, as the enterprising syndicate should receive the. a grave discussion is taking place rethe most liberal consideration in any appli- garding a suggestion to word the cation they might have to make to the reply in the form of an ultimatum.

The outlook is regarded as most

N. Y. K. Steamer Stranded.

PASSENGERS SAFE,

(From Our Own Correspondent.) .

Kobe, 21st December, 2.10 p.m.

The Nippon Yuson Kalsha coasting. steamer Shinagawa Maru, of 1:844 tons, which plies between Yokohama day, of Onmayesaki, near Yokohama The passengers were saved.

KINANUIAL RETURNSSES

The financial returns for the period, January 1st to October 31 t, 1903, are published in the Gazette. The actual revenue during the ten months was \$3 802,432.63, as against \$3,432,557.29 for the same period of the preceding year. To this has to be added-revenue derived from land sales, totalling \$499,236 26 as against \$73,342.27 collected during the same period of the preceding year. The total increase under the various items in revenue was \$831 092.06, and the only decrease, miscellaneous receipts is \$35,322.73. The expenditure for the ten months underreview, wis \$4,382,095.30 as against \$4,854,451.56. The total increases amounted to \$678,245.52 against which is a total decrease, under various headings, of \$1,152,601.78, including \$491,364.25, Public Works, extraordinary, \$629,900.28, miscellaneous services, and \$24,265.66, Public Works, recurrent On the 31st October there was a total balance in hand of \$372,418.25; \$350,875.94 being in Hongkong and \$21,542.31 with the Crown Agents.

INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS AND SHIPRIILDERS.

BALL AT THE CITY HALL

Thanks to the generous and cordial hospitality of the engineers and shipbuilders of Hongkong, volaries of Terpsichore and her satellites passed a most enjoyable evening at the City all on 18th inst. Members of the profession in which mechanics play the leading role are, like their brethren of the other liberal arts-tile artist, musician, the penman and others-ofadecidedly democratic temperament, so that at fêtes, of which they are the organisers, one is always assured of finding that pervading spirit of good-fellowship so necessary to the the French Chamber and capable of nursing | complete success of social gatherings of this kind. The large hall was tastefully decorated, as were also the adjoining salons, supper-room, corridors and bar, and compliments are due to Mr. H. C. kichardson for the able manner in which he supe vised this important branch of the preparations. Unstinted praise should be accorded to the courteous and indefatigable hon, secretary, Mr. J. T. Miller, to whom Pressmen, in particular, can accord a hearty vote of thanks for his unfailing attention. The M.Cs., Messrs. J. Murphy, J. Lambert, R.N.R. and the jovial Vice-President, Mr. W. C. Jack, splendidly maintained the proud tradition of the Institution, as appropriately worded in the motto on its devise-Ubique-for, indeed, they were here, there and everywhere, unflagging, from start to finish in their attention to the numerous guests of the evening. The attendance, as usual, was a crowded one, the space available proving almost too small for the requirements of the crowded gathering. Dancing was kept up till the small hours to the strains of the excellent band of the Sherwood Foresters, present by kind permission of the Colonel and officers of that regiment. The President, Mr. D. McDonald, and the members of the Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders of Hongkong, are to be congratulated on the brilliant success of this enjoyable gathering.

SUICIDE IN A HOTEL.

Mr. S. J. Reubens was found dead in bed at the Waverley Hotel, on Monday morning. At the Magistracy this afternoon, before Mr. Sercombe Smith, an inquiry was held into the cause of death. Dr. Hunter gave evidence to the effect that he had made a post mortem examination of the deceased, and found that the cause of death was carbolic acid poisoning. Evidence was taken as to the finding of the body of deceased on the bed in his room, and a European police constable, who was called into the Waverley Hotel, stated that he found deceased lying dead on the bed. The from was in great disorder, many papers being littered about. A tumbler, containing a quantity of carbolic acid, was on the table. Witness spoke regarding the removal of the body and the investigation of the room by Sergeant Sullivan. He found some letters on the table, one of these was opened; the other two sealed. One letter was addressed to J. Benjamin, Esq. This gentleman was in Court and the letter was now handed to him by the Magistrate. After reading the contents he passed it over to Mr. Sercombe Smith. Another letter, addressed to the Jewish synagogue, was opened by Mr. Silas, a member of the Committee. The letter was in Hebrew. Mr. Silas said that deceased wrote that owing to his strained financial situation he had decided on taking his life. He asked pardon of the Jewish community for committing this act.—The boys of the Hotel gave evidence concerning the conduct of deceased, which, on the evening preceding his death, was not in any way abnormal.

The Magistrate's decision was that death was due to carbolic acid poisoning, and that the poison was self-administered.

TURF TOPICS.

Twelve subscription China pony griffins, being the fourth batch from Shanghai, arrived per the s.s. Kroong Sang on Thursday, and were drawn for in the afternoon in the presence of a large concourse of local sporting men. Among those noticed were Sir Paul Chater, Major Radcliffe, Messes Rutter, Macd nald, Clarke, Hart Buck, Kaduorie, Michael, Brutton, J. H. Lewis, and Colony by the German mail looking as fit as ever. The result of the drawing was as fol-

Nos. 56 and 57 -- J. H. Lewis. Made good running at Shanghai, and are regarded as the best of the baich on time trials.

No. 58-W. E. Gray. " 59-E. Kadontie.

60-J. H. Lewis.

61-Major Radcliffe. The slowest pony on trial, but a fine looking animal, and a thorough racer.

62-Major Radcliffe. \ .. 63-Macdonald. ., 61-W. E. Gray,

, 65-II. N. Mody,

" 69-E. H. Hinds. 69-Morgan Phillips.

Eight animals, expected by the next boat. will come le calle let of ponies from Shanghai. The A wong Sang also brought a number of Derby griffins and other crack ponies, included ing there Derby griffins for Mr. Mody; two for its Mr. K do rie; one for Ewos, also the famous racers, Sel, Polka, Rajah ; one Derby for: Mr. J. H. Lewis, together with his old ponies. the trainer, Mr. Currum; and one Derby pony for Mr. Simpson.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislacive Council was held on Wednesday in the Council Chamber. Present: His Excellency the Officer Administering the Gove nment F. H. May, c.M.G., H.E. Major-General Villiers Hatton, C.B., (Officer Commanding the Garrison), Hon A. M. Thomson, (Acting Colonial Secretary), Hon. Sir Henry Spencer Berlely, Kt., (Attorney-General), L.A. M. Johnston (Acting Colonial Treasurer), Hon. Basil Taylor, R.N. (Acting Harbour Master). W. Chateam, (Director of Public Works), Hon. Sir C. P. Chater, C M.G., Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, C.M.G. Hon. Wei Yuk, Hon. Gershom Stewart, Hon. H.E. Pollock, K.C. and Mr. R. F. Johnston-(Acting Clerk of Councils).

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed

FINANCIAL. The Acting Colonial Secretary laid on the table Financial Minute No. 66 and moved that it be referred to the Finance Committee. The Acting Colonial Treasurer seconded, and the motion was carried.

 PAPERS. The Acting Colonial Secretary laid on the table a report of work done by the plague stuff from 22nd August to 6th November, 1903; a preliminary report on a cattle disease in the Colony; and the following statement under the Public Health and Buildings Amendment Ordinance:-

DEFINITION OF "EXTERNAL AIR" RECOM-MENDED BY THE SANITARY BOARD. Section 6, Sub-section 26,-"External air" means the clear and unobstructed open air of:-(1.) any street in front of an existing building which is not less than 8 feet in width throughout. (2.) any street in front of a building hereafter erected which is not less than 13 feet in width throughout: (3.) any open space in the rear of any building which is not less than if feet in width throughout. (4.) Any open space at the side of any existing building which either—(i,) extends contihugusly along the side of such building and has a continuous width of at least eight feet in every part; or else, (it.) extends continuously along three-fifths of the side of such building and has a continuous width of at least twelve feet in every part of such three-fifths; any open space at the side of any building hereafter erected which extends continuously along three-fifths of the side of such building and has

every part of such three-fifths. For the purpose of measuring the width of such street or space, a straight line shall be drawn from and at right angles to the external surface of the front, back or side wall as the case may be, or, in the event of any structure projecting from such wal from and at right angles to the outermost portion of such projecting structure exclusive of any cornice or eaves

gutters. STATEMENT SHOWING THE VOTING ON EACH PARAGRAPH OF THE DEFINITION.

Paragraph (1.)—For:—Mr. Lau Chu Pak, Mr. Pollock, Mr. Rumjahn, and Mr. Hewett, Against:-The President, The Vice-President, and Colonel Webb.

Paragraph (2.)—Carried unanimously. Paragraph (3.)—Fox:—The President, The Vice-President, Colonel Webb, Mr. Pollock, and Mr. Hewett. Against:-Mr. Rumjahn,

and Mr. Lay Chy Pak. Paragraph (4), (1) and (11).—For:—The Pre-Lau Chu Pak, Colonel Webb, Mr. Pollock, Mr. Rumjahn, and Mr. Hewett, Against:-The Vice-President. The Board was unanimously in favour of the succeeding paragraphs

The Acting Colonial Secretary said the statement would obviate the necessity of the hon. member for the Chamber of Commerce putting his resolution.

EXTERNAL AIR. Standing in the Hon. Pollock's name was the following motion:-- "That the Government do obtain from the Secretary of the Sanitary Board, and do lay upon the table, for the information of the Legislative Council, the recommendation which was made by the majority of the Sanitary Board as to the definition of "external air," and the names of the members forming such majority." He said he would like to address the Council on the motion, and explained that the reason he made it was that the Attorney-General stated in the objects and reasons attached to the Public Health and Buildings Amendment Ordinance, and also, if correctly reported, according to the newspapers, that on the second reading of the bill on the 7th December, that the definition "external air" was in substitution of the Sanitary Board's recommendation. Doubtless, he made the statement in all good faith, i.e. under an erroneous impression, but he (the speaker) maintained that the hon. D. P. W., who was a member of the Board and who was present at the deliberations of that body, at which, after great difficulty and spending severalhours on the subject, a definition of "external air" was arrived at. He complained that the hon. D. P. W. did not get up and move the misapprehension which must have been caused in the minds of those present at the Council meeting by the statement made by the Attorney General. The question had formed the subject of very anxious deliberation at several meetings of the Board; and it was a very difficult point indeed for members to define. Ultimately, they arrived at a definition of "externalair," and it was submitted in due course to the Council; but was absolutely and entirely different to that appearing in the Public Health and Buildings Amendment Ordinance, Therefore, it seemed to have the definition was passed through Council and had come into law under an erroneous impression as to what the Sanitary Board recommended He hoped that when the question of amendments to the Ordinance came up, as it was sure to do. H. E. would allow the question of the definition of "external air" to be treated as an open one. He did not, of course, complain of the fact that the D. P. W. thought that another | they can be extended out to the new Praya definition of external air" to that passed by front. If the electric tramway lines were laid the Board was advisable,—for he had a perfect | along the existing Praya the public would be right to his opinion in that respect—but that, put to great inconvenience later on, as the being the only member present at the Coun- tramway traffic would be seriously interfered cil who could have stated from his own per- with by the raising of the roadway and the country and our politics in that land. As this juncture "a most explicit guarantee, every man who has lived for some years in and her commercial predominance in China sonal knowledge exactly what decision was relaying of the lines. The cost of the work, arrived at and what definition was agreed upon | which is being done under contract; is debited by a majority of the members of the Board, did to an advance account and will be recovered nct get un and explain what that decision was: | in due course from the new Praya Reclamation | The Atlamey General pointed out that as a Fund when that Fund is established. A vote

paper, containing the information respecting was taken for the work on the 10th August the details of the Sanitary Board's suggestion, last. had been laid upon the table, all that could be obtained by the resolution had been attained. He submitted that had the hon, member been present at the meeting of the Council at the by your Department in connection with the time that the definition was brought forward, he | introduction of the Rider Main : ystem into would not have given expression to his remarks | the City of Victoria? By what date do you that afternoon, because from nothing appear- anticipate that the Rider Main System will be ing in the objects and reasons appended to the | in proper working order throughout the City of Ordinance, was the Hon. Pollock warranted in saying the definition proposed was in substitution of that submitted to the Government after consideration by the Sanitary Board, Infaterials for the work and staff to supervise it He drew the attention of the Council to the have been requisitioned from England. I printed objects and reasons which, in para- anticipate that the work will be completed in graph 3, stated. "In order to give effect to the labout two and a half years from now. This is Board's recommendations a new definition of merely an estimate; there are no grounds to go the expression "external air" is submitted to upon. Council," The Sanitary Board was not the only body which brought under the notice of the Government the necessity for considering a new

it, and the recommendation of each was duly | Attorney-General appears as Counsel. to bind the Government hand and foot and tie | passed. the House down to pass an expression of the Sanitary Board in regard to the definition. At the meeting of the Council, on the 7th inst., he pointed out that the greatest difficulty the Government have had in preparing the Bill for presentation to the Council was to get a definition of the expression external air which would be capable of being given effect to. The amendment of the present existing definition was made on the recommendation of the Sanitary Board, but not in their words. They reported that at present the definition rendered it almost impossible to give effect to the real intention of the Ordinance with respect to the proper amount of light and air that should be admitted into rooms. A new definition, therefore, would be submitted for the consideration of the Council which be believed would be found to at last achilive the difficulty of exactly saying what was meant by "external

air. Where was there a word asking the House to adopt a definition which had the sanction of the Sanitary Board and was in substance that which they had recommended. He regretted that in framing the objects and reasons he did not make it abundantly clear by reiteration; but he did not feet it necessary to say anything more than he did say.

Hon. Pollock thought that, with all due deference to the Attorney-General, the inference drawn from his language on the last occasion was the inference nine people out of ten would have drawn. Regarding the remark about not having given effect to the Board's recommendation by the definition inserted in the Bill, hon, members would see by comparing the Ordinance as passed into law with the recommendation of the Sanitary Board hey were absolutely and entirely different in substance one from the other. It was not a question of whether the exact language, words, expression, or phrase of the majority of the members of the Sanitary Board was adopted; there was a complete divergence in substance.

H. E. regretted very much any misunderstanding in the matter, and thought he might perhaps assist to a better understanding of the question if he stated briefly the policy that the Government had followed and intended to follow in future in regard to amending the Public Healthand Buildings Ordinance When that very voluminous measure was passed a continuous width of at least twelve feet in the Government practically undertook that for some years to come it would not introduce any fresh sanitary legislation if it could possibly avoid doing so. Therefore, in the amending Bill, passed by Council, at the last meeting, only such amendments as were absolutely necessary were made in the principal Ordinance. The amendment of the definition "external air" took the form of merely verbal alteration of the original definition which was found in the principal ordinance. That definition had not been found to be unworkable and it was not anticipated that it would be found unworkable, because the principal ordinance gave the Governor-in-Council absolute discretion of granting exemptions for buildings which did not comply as regards external air with the definition in the Ordin-Therefore, the Governor-in-Council could really allow anything at all to be regarded as external air. The amendment of the definition must not be taken to indicate that the Government was taking up a different position, or was going to adopt a different policy from that which it took up when it passed the principal ordinance. Every application for exemption from the provisions of the Ordinance regarding external air would receive the just and impartial consideration of the Governor-in-Council, and he assured hon, members that the mere fact of the definition having been amended was merely to make clearer the meaning that the Government had in its mind when the principal ordinance was passed. did not indicate a change of policy, and the community and members of Council might rest assured that no hardship would be imposed under the amending ordinance that would not have been imposed under the

> the principal ordinance. He took it the hon, member withdrew his motion. Hon. Pollock :- No, sir, I think must leave my motion formally on the records. I should like, with your Excellency's permission, to

principal Ordinance. The position practically

remained precisely the same as it was under

mention one point. H.E .: - I am afraid you are out of order. You have spoken twice. Hon. Pollock :- I think, sir, I might explain here, now. It will only involve my writing to the newspapers to explain. There was no

H.E.—The motion can stand in your name. The Attorney General:—You have got what you asked for.

omission on my part— ----

A PUBLIC NUISANCE. The Flon. Pollock asked the following question, of which he had given notice:— Does the Government propose to take any, and, if so, what steps to prevent the public latrine near the No. 3 Police Station from continuing to be a nuisance to persons passing

along the Queen's Road East? The Acting Colonial Secretary replied:-The Government has already taken steps to remove the cause of the complaints made. The door at Queen's Road end has been permanently closed and the side windows have also been permanently closed. A ventilating shaft with an electric exhaust fan has been

WORK ON THE PRAYA.

He also asked: What is the object of raising the roadway of the Praya East? Who is paying the cost of such work?

The Acting Colonial Secretary replied:— Before the Praya East Reclamation can be taken in hand the existing Praya roadway must be raised so as to enable the drains and sewers to be brought up to such a level that

THE RIDER MAIN SYSTEM.

Hon. Pollock asked the Hon. D. P. W.:-Have any, and, if so, what steps been taken Victoria? What grounds have you for that anticipation?

· The D. P. W. replied:—The necessary

PAYMENT OF COUNSEL'S FEES. The Attorney-General moved the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to

tion was to make a new amendment, and no | bill was substquently read a third time and

troduced into the Colony, lated by the Hon. H. F. Pollock.

GREETINGS. last occasion on which the Council would meet assembled members a very happy, Christmas and a prosperous New Year. The Council was adjourned sine die.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee wa held immediately after the Council, Hon. A M. Thomson, Acting Colonial Secretary, pre-

The following vote was submitted and the Committee agreed to recommend that it be adopted by the Council:-

PUBLIC WORKS EXTRAORDINARY. A sum of \$26,500 in aid of the vote Public Works, Extraordinary, under the following

4. Resumption of Kowloon Inland Lots 1012to 1015, ... ... ... \$24,000 2. Resumption of strip of Kowloon

Inland Let 1087, ... ... ... 2.500

THE CHINA ASSOCIATION. ANNUAL DINNER.

We take the following from the L. & C. Express:-

The usual annual dinner of the China Association—known always as the China Dinnertook place at the Whitehall Rooms of the Hotel Metropole on 17th ult. The muster made a total of about 220 guests, just a few under the record number attained at the gathering last year. The president of the Association for the year is Sir Alked Dent, K.C.M.G., who was in the chair. Behind the president's chair a group of flags was displayed, comprising the Union lack, flanked on either side by the Japanese naval ensign and the Italian national flag. An innovation was made on the present occasion by the introduction of music-instrumental and vocal. After each toast and reply a ballad, glee. or air was rendered. Each was brief so that no great inroad on the time was made-an important point at such gatherings, where so many have necessarily to catch trains and yet have so many chin chins to make to friends and cronics whom it is frequently only possible to meet a such gatherings.

THE LOYAL TOASTS. The Chairman, in proposing "The King," said the nation had viewed with pride and satisfaction the cordial welcome given to Hi Majesty during his tour on the Continent, and it was with equal pride and satisfaction the they knew His Majesty was now entertaining at Windsor a Royal guest-an illustrious representative of one of the three Mediterranean naval Powers, (Cheers.)

The toast was loyally acknowledged. The Chairman, in proposing the toast of "The Queen the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Rest of the Royal Family," said that they were so dear to us all that no words of his tablished in the past. As it was my good were needed to commend the toast to those present. With regard to the Prince of Wales and the Princess of Wales, he reminded them of the very great advantages which has resulted from the tour which their Royal Highnesses made to the Colonies, and in this connection he would recall the words which his Royal Highness usulat the Guildhall on his return to England, and which have some special significance now; he said that "the Old Country must wake up if she intends to maintain her old position of pre-eminence in her Colonial trade against foreign competitors."

THE IMPERIAL FORCES OF THE CROWN. Mr. Wm. Keswick, M.P.: I am asked to propose a toast which is rightly placed immediately after the toastof the Royal Family. The toas is "The Imperial Forces of the Crown." Gentlemen, these forces are the material ex pression of the power of our Empire, it is themour strength lies, and the possessions which we now hold and the nation that we are entirely due to them. Our Navy goes wher ever the waters flow on which it can float; prepares the way, and our armies follow on whenever they are demanded. These forces, combined with those of our Colonies, represent what we believe to be the civilising influences of the Western nations. (Hear, hear.) We have with us to night Admiral Seymour-(applause)—whose great achievements in Northern China have been the admiration of everyone, and we have also as representing our Army Colonel Crawford, who, I believe, is one of those gifted men whose special knowledge has | China at one time claime I to exercise over | reverted to ancient China. And when you rebeen retained in the service of the country It is a great feature that we have power to send forces to establish our will and preserve the as best she can with very designing neighbours the friends and neighbours but to all the commerce which our forefathers opened up and we now find the protection which our Army and Navy affords us. Gentlemen, these are the names which I associate with the toast of the Imperial Forces of the Crown.

· Admiral Seymour, in rising to respond amic great applaust, said: I derive much pleasure to return you on the part of the Navy, our hearty thanks for the very cordial manner in which this tout has been proposed by you in connection with the Imperial Forces of the Crown. Lastyear also, I had the honour of responding here for the Navy. It is a special pleasure for me as well as an honour, as recalls my work in China, and the very kind Chusan so as not to humilitate China, or to of the world in those days. The annual dinway in which I was assisted by my fellow countrymen there. It is also interesting to me on account of the necessary connection which exists in China between the sea-power of this regards the Navy, it has increased steadily, so much so that this year the Navy estimates are larger than they have ever been before, even to indicate that in the matter of territorial have carried the commerce of Great Britain in time of war. I think there is reason to believe acquisition at all events we have not added into the most distant parts of the world, and that the authorities are coming to the conclusion much to our visible prestige in the Far East, that we should build a type of battleship superior to what we have done before, but not to increase the size of ships or the personnelespecially the latter. The future should be devoted to improvements in torpedoes and submarine boats, as it is not good to put too many eggs into one basket. I imagine that there is of influence, we shall at all events find that the larger and wider sweep, and it cannot be otherno one in this from who does not weigh over the question of the Far East and Japan, and, as been secured for the trade of the British Empire | this kind. The question which underlies our | think we shall all recognise that that treaty was I am a sort of official at this moment, I must not say much about it. But I will say that the | congratulate, in the meantime. Sir James. evacuation of Manchuria by Russia hardly Mackay and ourselves on the ratification of his sa vation; how far will she be able (with the comes within the lines of things probable, even though we are told this upon Russian authority. (Laughter.) As regards Japan the position of Korea is of vital importance, and I do not think are all most sincerely looking forward to. We country. (Applause.) These difficult and ed nation treatment in China have signified we can blame Japan for taking steps in the regret, however, that no Commission has yet matter. It appears to me pretty evident that a been appointed for the Gonservancy of the prophecy, but the gift of prophecy is indeed factory to know that two nations that have war must take place sooner or later upon the Hwangpu river, which all people in Shanghai supposed to be solely possessed by the members | never lagged behind us in showing their loyalty question of Korea. I do not think it will take place yet, principally because each Power desires to put theonus of doing so on the should-

They made the recommendation; others made losing party in certain cases in which the Important that I shall not venture to speak I trinty, and especially as regards the proposed about it. When I went out to China as Ad- | consumption tax. As regards lekin, which Mr. and properly considered. The recommendation The Council went into Committee, and the miral I looked about me and observed that the Gundry dealt with so exhaustively in his memoidea was of "sphere of influence"; after a randum of November, 1897, we do hope to see time, I asked myself what was a "sphere of it eventually abolished, together with all its influence," and I concluded that a "sphere of satellites, when other Powers have concluded The Council went into Committee on the influence" meant a "sphere of influence" for their treaty negotiations. We also hope to see Bill entitled an Ordinance to provide for the for that particular nation, and nobody else. the matter of Currency Reform pressed for-Recovery of Charles incurred by the Colony (Laushter.) ! changed my idea to that of " the | ward, and if any edict is to be issued in that on account of certain undesirable persons in open door," and am still an acvocate of that | direction, we must hope that it will not prove policy. I believe in the Japanisation of China | abortive like the edict of 1887, when the Em-On the proposition of the Attorney General | because I believe it will lead to the integrity of | press Regent ordered that the copper "cash discussion on the bill was postponed, to allow China for the whole of the world. I think this | coinage should be promptly reorganised." We of the examination of certain objections formu- will be a long time in accomplishment, but it | are glad to find that His Excellency Sir Ernest may be a memice to the world. It may not be | Salow and Sir Pelham Warren are again at in our time, and I mink we can only work for their posts, and we are all disappointed that His Excellency stated that, as this was the ourselves, and the unmediate succeeding opportunities failed during their brief residence generation. Gentlemen, I must not detain at home of according to them the good wishes in 1903, he had much pleasure in wishing the you longer. I wish to congratulate my China and hospitality of the Association. In connecfriends on the appointment of an excellent and | tion with this treaty I am sure you will all apdistinguished officer, now at this table, to prove the telegram which we sent to Sir Charles succeed our present very able Commander-in- Dudgeon, the esteemed chairman of the Asso-Chief there. The interests of China are always | ciation in Shanghai, congratulating him when ing is a pleasure, because I am delighted to at the hands of His Majesty. (Applause.) The cast in the Far East. (Prolonged applause.)

> rapidly into modern improvements, so that when the Chino-Japanese war took place, one knew pretty well what was going to happen if you want to keep up the Army and Navy efficiently, the truest economy is to pay the piper and plank down the dollars. (Applause.) PROSPERITY TO THE CHINA ASSOCIATION.

The President, who on rising to speak was

gracted with much applause, said: My lord and

gentlemen. I have now the honour to propose

to you the toast of the evening, "The China

Association." (Long and hearty applause.) I

must first thank you for the great honour you

have done me in electing me as your President

for the present year. We have had many dis-

tinguished presidents who had presided at this

table before, and the ideal president to my mind

should be, as hitherto either one of those dis-

tinguished officials who from the nature of his

appointment has acquired a full knowledge of all our interests in both China and Japan, or else a representative of one of the large mercantile and shipping firms who by reason of their large business connections at all the ports are in constant touch and sympathy with all the British interests therein. (Applause.) We have been fortunate in securing many Presidlents to answer such a description; and, whatever my shortcomings may be, we can rejoice in knowing that we have members on our roll who are available to maintain in the future the reputation that our President's have so fully esfortune to have something to do with the inception of the Association in 1888, I might be tempted to a review of all that the Association has done during these past 15 years; but a glance at the Minute Book of our committee. and at the voluminous reports that have been issued to members under the imprimatur of our applause) I will venture to call him—has convinced me, as it would you, that it would be have arisen to be dealt with by the Celestial emerged from a crushing defeat at the hands of Japan, of her Army, of her Navy, and of her antique maxims and ideas to incur new diffiof which may alienate the whole of her Cus- distinguished friends who are here this evening, toms Revenue for many years to come. She has also to face additional complications with [guished personages en bloc and comprehenmany has acquired a large position of her incressities and duties of the position which i territory in Shangtung, and France, after was called upon to fill. And therefore perhaps detaching her vassal states in Indo-China, is it was inevitable, at all events it was most pressing on her frontier in Yunnan. Japan has certainly the case, that when I began to conseized Formosa, and the suzerainty which sider this important toast, my mind at once at her doors. The benefits that have accrued strangers who came within the gates, you wil to the British Empire throughout all these incidents are not yet apparent—(laughter)—as | pitality ever showed or practised in a more the small acquisitions of territory which we princely fashion than it was by every person and have made round the thinly inhabited districts at every treaty port in that vast empire. (Apof the harbours of Hongkong and Wei-hai-wei | plause.) I am perfectly sure that the traditions are but specks on the map as compared with I to which I refer have been maintained to the the territorial aggrandisement of other Powers. | present time. If we could only translate our Our statesmen, indeed, seem to have avoided guests who are with us this evening by some territorial aggrandisement as much as possible. I magic to that distant empire, they would underand I have no doubt they had very good rea- stand how near, how dear, how great was the sons for doing so, but it is amusing, in face of what other Powers have done, to find it recorded that we gave up our occupation of wound the susceptibilities of France; and that | ner of the China Association is a function we hauled down our flag at Port Hamilton, not altogether unworthy of the regard of trade interest in general, I think that all of us returning those three little islands to Korea, in | those whom we entertain here this evening, in | who wish to see this country continue to take deference to the feelings of Russia, who gave at | spite of that modesty which is characteristic of | that lead which her long historic connection distinctly declaring she would not occupy China (Laughter.) We may be considered as Korean territory." I might quote other instances | no unworthy representatives of the men who but any loss of influence that we have incurred | with merited success. A very few years ago, I on that account we trust to find more imaginary than real. And we hope also to find, as time goes on that our commercial interests at least have been safeguarded, and that, if we are all individually and collectively interested, Mackay. When we remember the obstinate have retired from the competition for spheres | but to-day the Chinese question has taken a "open door" and "equal opportunity" have and for the world at large. We have to treaty, and we hope, when it comes into full assistance I trust of Great Britain) to maintain force, that it will form a basis for that com- her integrity; and how far and in what manner | the lekin does not come into active operation mercial and administrative reform which we will British interests be sustained in that until the other Powers which enjoy most favourhave so much at heart, and we are anxiously of the China Association for the time being; and interest in the principle of the open door awaiting answers to our questions as to what

paramount in my mind. To be here this even- we learned that his services had been recognised find myself associated with my China friends sympathies of the Association with the reform and with all some whose lives and interests are movement have always been so frankly expressed that I should be guilty of an omission Colonel Crawford: I have not very much to | if I failed to express our gratification on ascersav. but would like to make the remark, that taining that His Majesty's Government had during the five years which I passed in China | refused to surrender those men who are awaitone learned the difference between one "olo ing their trial at Shanghai to the unrestrained custom" and modern improvement. I remem- barbarity of which the Court in Peking has ber going to a Chinese town and having to in- proved itself; capable in similar cases. Some spect the Chinese artillery. The guns were three years ago we addressed two letters to there which were left when the place was eva- Lord Salisbury under very similar circumstances cuated by us in 1850. They were drawn up for as to the vindictive and reactionary policy of inspection, with a Chinaman in charge, and his those in authority in Peking, and the words words of command were given in broad Irish. which we used then you will find very appli-When we left the guns we left also an Irish in- cable now. As regards our proceedings generstructor. These guns were, of course, obsolete ally during the last twelve months, there is and out of date. I happened to go soon after | very little to add to the report which was issued that to Japan, where the people have jumped to the members in March last, and an interim allow one who is an old Parliamentary hand to report on the present occasion has been thought unnecessary. I will not detain you with any of Commons is such as to satisfy us that he comments on the political situation between With regard to the British Army, for which I Russia and Japan, which has already been have to speak this evening, having been in it dealt with by our friend Admiral Seymour. myself for close upon half a century, I can say | We can but hope that though Russia and this: the British soldier is the pioneer of the Japan stand out as Protagonists of varying. merchant, and he has to act in advance by interests, that they will be reconciled shortly, establishing law and order, and then commer- and in peaceful manner. If the advent of the cial enterprise begins. (Laughter and cheers.) | Siberian Railway has been productive so far If you want to keep up an efficient Army you | chiefly of disturbance, let us anticipate a time must pay the piper. There is a good deal in | when that magnificent highway will be used the old adage, "Si vis pacem para bellum," and I for the purpose of carrying commodities and merchandise rather than for the transport of troops and stores. (Applause.) The progress which has been made with the railway concessions throughout China is a matter of first the cordial manner in which you have received importance to the country, and we can but regret that our share in these railway concessions is to so moderate as compared with the State-aided projects of other Power. The completion of the various schemes must bring about many vast changes in the internal administration of China, and it is satisfactory to know that the Chinese, as a race, are so ready to welcome those changes. We all know what Japan has done, and is doing, since she adopted modern ideas, and if China, with ten times her population, should follow her example, and develop her resources in the same way and at the same pace, it seems probable that before long we may have a great competitor for the trade of the world, both on land and sea; and Chinese patriotic statesmen may yet come to the front with a desire and determination to assert the dormant strength of their empire in other ways than trade. This is a matter, how ever, which I will leave to your president of a future generation to deal with. I have now my Lord and gentlemen, much pleasure in ask

ng you to give a cordial reception to the toast of "Prosperity to the China Association." (Prolonged applause.) OUR GUESTS. Sir Thomas Sutherland: A very simple, a very easy, and very agreeable duty falls to my share to night. In rising to propose the toast of "Our Guests" I can best describe my feelings by saying that I have been somewhat perplexed and embarassed in mind by observing integrity. Well, that being the case, and the late hon, secretary—an ideal hon, secretary I that this toast is to be followed by a song in reference to "Evening's Twilight." (Laughter.) I sincerely hope that is no sentiment, and impossible to make any such review on the has no reference whatever to our guests topresent occasion. During those comparatively | night, and I am quite sure it can have no few years much, however, has happened in possible reference to the youthful members of China, and new problems of vast importance this Association. (Cheers.) I ask you, my Lords and gentlemen, to drink to the health of Empire and by those interested in her trade | those distinguished guests, and to do honour and welfare. Forgetting nothing that is old to those who are honouring us to-night by their and learning nothing that is new, China has presence here: (Here, here.) I must candidly confess that when your secretary announced to Home Government (not without considerable me that I had been selected for the purpose of proposing this toast I began most anxiously to culties and new financial embarrassments in | consider, and have been considering ever since consequence of her recent outrageous attack for several days, for I felt that it was almost upon the Legations in Peking. By so doing impossible to do what I should desire to do, she has needlessly incurred a debt, the service | namely, to sing the praises of everyone of our and, on the other hand, to treat those distin-Rus in in her Northern Provinces, whilst Ger- | sively seemed to me to fall entirely below the Korea have vanished like the morning mi-t, | call, as I am sure most of you can recall, the leaving that kingdom to defend its independence | hospitality which was youch safed not only to agree with me that never was a greater hoshospitality of that part of the world, and how i has sweetened the lives of those I see around me to-night, and who were living in that part carried it, I am glad to say, upon the whole may say the China Association concerned itself of European commerce in China. I refer, of absolutely with nothing whatever except the course, to what has already been referred toidea of the commercial progress in which we wise than discussed more or less in meetings of the state of Chinese finances at the time. I thoughts at the present moment is, this: How far will China be able to work out her own delicate points take us into the realms of their acceptance of its condition, but it is satisand I should be extremely sorry to interfere new methods of procedure the Chinese autho. | with their privilege. I do not know that it is | Japanese-(applause)-have already concluded :

which Manchuria will be given up to China by the power Japan in now negotiating with. have some knowledge of the subject, but will not dare to prophesy as to the time when the progress of the Siberian Railway will make an end of some of those unfortunate steamship companies who have been carrying on their trade with China. Gentlemen, I dare not venture to refer to those topics in that prophetic spirit which might belong to the president of the Association. We are happy to have among our guests this evening a noble lord, who will be able—if he chooses—to speak upon all points of interest connected with the Eastern Question. I do not for one single moment say that the noble lord will inform us, but he may prefer, like myself, to avoid as far as possible any prophecy or of entering upon subjects except when he actually knows. But I shall be very glad, indeed, if my noble friend should be able to endorse the utterances of the Prime Minister at the Guildhall by saying that the danger of war between Russia and Japan may at all events be considered in the process of termination and coming to an end. In that, however, I trust, without encroaching on the province of our president, that I may at all events say that under the reign of Lord Lansdowne I believe that the Foreign Office has done everything possible in their power to promote peace in that part of the world, and at the same time to promote British interests in China in general. (Hear, hear.) I dare say the Foreign Office, every now and then, must feel the want of a man like our friend Mr. Gundry. (Laughter.) Whether that be so or not, I, as a private individual, venture to say that I believe Lord Lansdowne has done everything that was in his power to promote the interest of this country since he came into power as Foreign Minister. My noble friend Lord Percy, who is to reply to this toast, will say that his record since he came to the House will do everything in his power, everything that he possibly can do, in order to protect the interest and advance the welfare of Great Britain in that distant part of the world; and lagain I trust, without unduly trespassing on the ground of our president, that in doing so he will have the assistance and all the loyal co-operation which it is possible to give from the members of the China Association. Gentlemen. I give you the toast of "Our Guests," coupled with the health of the Right Honourable Earl Percy, Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs. (Continuous cheering.)

Earl Percy: I thank you very heartily for

this toast, and for the compliment you have

paid me in asking me to respond on behalf of

all your guests for the hospitality of the China

Association. Perhaps I may also take the

opportunity as a humble representative of the

office which is brought into constant and close

connection with those questions in which the

Association is chiefly interested, of saying how

much we appreciate the services which an

Association like this may render. It serves as

a focus in concentrating expert knowledge upon many questions of a very technical character, it serves as a medium for educating public opinion whose opinions in regard to any particular question are now somewhat fickle, and it acts as a check upon irresponsible and partly informed persons. I suppose there is no part of the world in which it is more true to say that in China our political policy is synonymous with our commercial policy. If we desire the political integrity of China, it is not only that " we have no political ambitions there ourselves, it is because in our opinion the political integrity of China is the surest guarantee of commercial expansion in that country-(hear. hear)-and if we desire the extension of railway communication and the removal of trade restrictions in that Empire, it is because we believe that in the development of Chinese resources and the creation of an international state in our commerical relations, lies the surest guarantee of her political and territorial connection between our political and commercial policy in China being so close, I think it is surprising that the charge should so frequently be levelled against the Foreign Office, of apathy and indifference to our trade in general, and railway construction in particular. That we are alive to the importance of railway development in civilising a country and in promoting its commercial development is, I think, sufficiently evident, if any proof were needed, by the fact that we have induced the grumbling and opposition) to sanction very large sums for the construction of the Uganda Railway, in a sphere in which we have ourselves administrative responsibility. But in China we had not ourselves administrative responsibilities, and the work must be done by the foresight, motives, and self-interest of private capitalists. And perhaps I may be allowed to say, not of course by way of counteraccusation. but rather by way of appeal to those who have the interest of our trade in China at heart, that if it is true that our commercial policy there depends to some extent upon our political policy. it is also true that no political policy, how. ever well devised, and however persistently pursued, can be of any 'real effect unless it is backed up by the earnest and patriotic support of the commercial community. (Applause.) It is of very little use for us to pile up concessions on paper, and to point as we have so often done with pride to the comparative share which has been allotted to us in contrast to the share allotted to foreign countries in the railway development of China, if British concessionnaires alone among the nations of Europe take no steps to profit by the advantages which they have gained. I think I may go further and say that I do not think it is honourable or consistent for us to press upon China the urgent necessity of developing her resources as soon as possible, and at the same time claim for ourselves the priority of the right of initiative over large areas of her most fertile provinces. the exercise of which is to be indefinitely postponed. Well, gentlemen, as regards our entitle her to take, we must all have viewed with legitimate pride and satisfaction the initiative which this country has taken in persuading China to contemplate the first serious step towards removing the gravest obstacle which has hitherto obstructed the free course namely, the treaty negotiated by Sir James conservatism of the Chinese character, and still more, the obstacles which were presented by a great monument to the diplomatic skill and the financial resourcefulness of my distinguished friend. It is true, of course, that Article VIII. of that treaty, states that the abolition of -our American cousins and our allies, the definition of the expression "external air," provide for Psyment of Counsel's Fees by the ere of the other but the question is so great and rities intend to adopt generally as regards the necessary to venture to say exactly the date at creaties on similar lines in China and we hope

that their example may be speedily followed by other European nations. If that is done, China will have an opportunity that she has never had before to proceed on the path of progress, and to base her political institutions on the only sound foundation for the economic prosperity of the country. With a single, but a not un important exception, she now enjoys the terri torial status quo which she enjoyed before the war broke out—that single exception is, of course, the three northern provinces of Manchuria. That those provinces would be restored to China, and that the process of their restoration would be a gradual one, we have known for some time. What we do not know even now - and I think the want of information is to be regretted, if for no other reason than that it is apt to lead to popular conjectures and impressions which once formed are very difficult to eradicate- re the precise circums-Jances which, presumably, made it impossible for the Russian Government to carry out, at the exact dates specified in their convention with China, the, explicit assurances they hav so frequently and repeatedly given to ourselves Now, gentlemen, I will only add one word more. The past few years have been years of comparative stagnation, and even years of apparent retrogression in the import trade of this country with China. I think, perhaps, we are somewhat towapt to fix our attention exclusive ly on the import trade, and forget that that trade will never be established on a really permanent and progressive foundation without corresponding stimulus to China's own export trade. (He r, hear.) Well, of course, the import trade is that in which we are most primarily interested, and I do not think any one can have read the evidence given before the Steamship Subsidies Committee last year without realising that there are new factors at work which may seriously threaten our commercial predominance, even in those quarters in China where hitherto we have had almost an exclusive predominance. That, no doubt, is a very serious factor, and of course there are some persons—a good many persons at the present time—who are apt to tell us that the retrogression or stagnation of our import trade is due entirely to the apathy or lack of intelligence of our own commercial and manufacturing classes. Perhaps it was a superior person of that kind—a philosopher who wished to have a dig at the business world-who originally invented the proverb that "the bird who laid the golden egg was a goose." However that may be, I think it is impossible to view the increasingly close connection between the spheres of State action and private enterprise in foreign countries, without feeling that we cannot pursue the opposite policy which has been our traditional policy at home hitherto-without serious risk, unless private enterprise here in all its branches, manufacturers, merchants, shippers and capitalists will realise the times, the inter-dependence of their mutual interests, and by acting, possibly through the Chambers of Commerce as an organising intelligence department, will make it impossible for any Government to plead as an excuse either for indefiniteness of aim or

vaciliation in policy the multiplicity and in-

coherence of the advice which it has received.

THE CHAIRMAN

Mr. Gundry, who was received with prolonged cheering, said: It is always pleasant, gentlemen, to feel that one has the sympathy of one's audience; but I was certain from the first that I should have your cordial goodwill in asking you to drink to the health of your chairman, Sir Alfred Dent. (Applause.) If I had needed a text for my speech, indeed, I could have found it in Sir Thomas Sutherland's allusion to the traditional hospitality of the China hongs and for which the great houses of Dent and Jardine Matheson were pre-eminent. His alrecalled also to my mind, somehow or other, a wicked anecdote of a jamboree at llankow, after which one of the men who had been present was found lying, in his dress clothes, in his bath, padding feebly at the water with his hands and complaining that he couldn't pull up the sheet. (Cheers and laughter.) I beg, however, that you will not misconceive me. I do not for one moment suggest that anyone present is likely to be under any similar hallucination to-night. I think the fact is that my mind was carried back to the long ago days when I first knew Sir Alfred Dent in China, when life was young. and Shanghai was young, and everything was possible—even to going to bed in a bath (Laughter.) He went to North Borneo after that, and I lost sight of him for a while till he flashed across the Western horizon again, in Peru. But the point in his career which more immediately concerns us to-night is that first China dinner which was held at the Thatched House Club on March 4 1889, when he was in the chair, and when he broached the project of forming a China Association to the 70 or 85 Chimmen who were resent. The idea "caught on"; and a meeting (of which herwas also chairman) was held shortly afterwards at 122. Leadenhall-street, when the Association was form dly constituted under the presidency of Sir George Bowen with a committee of whom half have, I grieve to say, since joined the great majority. It was a fitting climax, therefore, when you elected him this year as your president; but it follows that when he alluded lightly, in his speech, to having been connected with the Association from its inception he was somewhat under-stating the case. Sir Thomas Sutherland evoked another reminiscence by his allusion to my fine Roman hand | Why, gentlemen, the work of the secretaryship was carried on for the first year or so in Sir Afred Dent's office, till the Association found its legs; and I remember, perfectly, a grimace he drew at a peculiarly untidy letter to the Foreign Office which I produced under cricumstances of some difficulty in those early days. Few, in fact, are so well aware as I, how keenly he has interested himself throughout in the progress and development of the Association. None, therefore, can sympathise more cordially with the gratification he must feel in looking round this evening upon the great gathering in which that first dinner at the Thatched House Club has eventuated. (Appliuse.) Gentlemen, you will all, I am sure, join with me in drinking most cordially to the health of your Chairman, Sir Alfred Dent.

The toast having been most cordially responded to the Chairman said: I thank you from the bottom of my heart for the very cordial reception you have given to the toast of "The President" this evening, and for the kind allusions which Mr. Gundry has made to my early connection with the China Association I can only say, what I am certain has been said by every president for many years past, that the whole success of our Association has been largely owing to Mr. Gundry himself. No one has had a more intimate knowledge of all that has been going on in China for the last forty years than Mr. Gundry. As editor of the North China Daily News and correspondent of The Times, and still a constant contributor to the Press, he has kent us in touch with China in every possible direction, and I am certain I may say that by the many able despatches he has drafted to the Foreign Office he has earned our sincere good wishes for the remainder of his life.

THE Universal Gazette, states, that as war is inevitable between Russia and Japan, China has definitely resolved to co-operate with Japan in opposing Russia.

THE HONGKONG HIGH-LEVEL. TRAMIVAYS CO., LTD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The nineteenth ordinary general meeting of the thareholders in the Hongkong High-Level Tramways Co., Ltd., was held at the Registered Offices of the Company, 38 and 40, Queen's Road Central, on Wednesday for the purpose of receiving the report of the general managers together with a statement of accounts for the year ending 30th November; 1903. There were present Messrs. Hart Buch (churman), Henry Humphreys, C. Ewens, A. H. Mancell, G. Murray Bain, R. K. Leigh, W. H. Gaskell, J. A. Tarrant, J. M. Wong, and J. L. Cotton (secretary)

The notice convening the meeting having

The Chairman said:-Gentlemen, as you have doubtless seen the report and statement of accounts I will with your permission considerthem a read. I am pleased to say that our business during the last financial year has been as good as before and that we are in a polition to pay an increased dividend. The improvements to the station at the Upper Terminus have been completed and have given general satisfaction. As you are of course aware our capital-\$125,000-does not in any way represent the value of our property; in fact, if at the present time we were to con-. s ruct a similar line with the same kind of building at the v rious stations. I think we should require a capital of at least \$500,000, which would naturally reduce our present substantial dividend to a comparatively insignificant onc. I might add that in view of the fact that almost all the building sites in the Peak district are now built upon we must look to the visitors passing through the Colony for any future imp ovement in our returns. Before moving the adoption of the report and statement of accouns I shall be pleased to answer any questions.

there being no question the Chairman proposed that the report a diaccount as presented he adopted and passe '

Mr. Murray Bai: :- Gentlemen, I have great t leasure in seconding that proposition. I think shareholders, generally, will agree that the company is in a very good position financially, and in every other way. The General Minagers deserve great credit for the way in which t'ey have managed the busi ess during the past

The motion was car ied.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE. On the proposition of Mr. II. Humphreys, seconded by Mr. Mancell, Mr. C Ewens, the Hon, C W. Dickson, and Mr. R. K. Leigh were re-elected to the consulting committee.

AUDITORS. The Chairman proposed, Mr. R. K. Leigh seconded, and it was agreed that Messrs. W. H.

Potts and Gaskell be re-elected auditors. The Chairman :-That, gentlemen, concludes the business of the meeting. Dividend warrants will be ready after three o'clock to-day. Thank you for your attrendance.

The following is the report and accounts at the meeting: To the shareholders of the Hongkong, High-

REPORT.

Level Tramw. ys ' o., Ld. Gentlemen,-We beg to lay before you the report and statement of accounts for the year ending 30th November, 1903.

The net profits for the twelve mon hs, after paying charges and all running expenses, and making pro-

v sion for audit rs' fees, amount to \$41,315 66 . To which has to be added the balance brought forward from 1 st 

. \$45,205,79 And from this has to be deducted remuneration to general managers, (5% on gross carnings ......

Leaving available for appropriation \$40,825.40

Your general managers and consulting committee recommend that a dividend of \$20 per share be paid to shareholders, absorbing and \$1,541.82 off tations and shelters; that \$5,000 be transferred to permanent reserve, and the bilance, viz., \$4,283.58 be carried to new profit and loss account.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE. Mr. J. Orange having resigned, Mr. R. K. Leigh was invited to fill the vacancy, and accepted a seat on the board. In accordance with rule 15 of the Company's, Articles of Association the present members, Mr. C. Ewens, the Hon. C. W. Dickson and Mr. R. K. Leigh retire, but, being eligible, off r themselves for re-election.

In the absence of Mr. Full rton Henderson from the Colony, the accounts have been audited by Mr. W. H. Potts and Mr. W. H. Gastell Mr + outs and Mr. Gaskell offer themselves for re-election.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON, General Managers. Hongkong, 12th De ember, 1903.

BALANCE-SHEET For the Year ending 30th Novemb 1, 1903. Capital account: 1,250 shares of \$ 00

each, fully 1 aid up ......\$125, 00 00 Permanent reserve fund ...... Unclaimed dividends ..... Local and General li bilities .. ..... Profit and loss: brought

Profit and lost for current year ...... 41,315.66

45,205 79 \$201,606.09

A 55: 15. Permanent way, concession and det d of grant as per last account...\$125,000 00 Stations, Crown leaseholds and buildings (Inland Lots, 1,317, 1,332, 1,333, 1,334, 1,335, 1,353 and R:

B. Lot 86) ...... Rolling stock..... Furniture account..... Coals and stores in hand..... Accounts receivable..... Cash in H. & S. Bank .. \$28,993.29

Cash and compradors' orders in hand.....

\$101,606.09 PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT. " maintenance and repairs ........ " charges ..... " coals and stores ..... , rates, crown rent and fire insur-

ceived ...... 604.67 office rent and clerk's salaries ...

, godown and station rent \$2,100.00

Less sundry rents re-

Byamount brought forward from last year .....\$ 3,890.13 ., transfer fees ..... , traffic receipts for the year to date 86,083.18 ., interest .......

,, steel rails ..... \$ 91,497.94

JOHN D. HUMPHRLYS & SON, General Managers. We have compared the at ove statement with

the books and vouchers of the company, and found it to be correct. W. HUTTON POTTS, Auditors. W. II. GASKELL

DECEMBER CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

Hongkong, 12th December, 1903.

The following case was decided after we had gone to press last week. Arizo Shamiza, a Japanese, was charged with, on the 12th of December, feloniously attempting to put into circulation a counterfeit note of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, knowing the same to

Prisoner pleaded "not guilty," and the following jury was sworn :---B. J. Spittles, A. Reid, T. C. Downing, W.

Y. D. H. S. des Remedios. dollar and a half, and tendered in paywas available so prisoner withdrew and returned later for the same. During his absence it was discovered that the note was forged and, when he was informed of the fact, he ran away. He was pursued and arrested on the present charge. Sir H. S Beakeley told the jury that they must judge if the accused knew that the note was forge I when he presented it in payment. Prisoner declared that he ignored that this was so.

Evidence was given and the jury returned 'verdict of "guilty.' The Chief Justice sentenced the prisoner to two years' imprisonment with hard Jabour

DEATH SENTENCE.

Tsang Tin Kwai and Tsang Chang were indicted on a charge of being concerned in the murder of a Chinese woman, Leung So, at Wanchai, on May 10th, 1902

The "ttorney General, Sir H S. Berkeley, (instructed by Mr. H. Hursthouse) prosecuted, while accused were represented by Mr. W. M.

Prisoners pleaded not guilty, and the following jury was sworn :-- Messrs. P. Plage, W. F Bassford, T. C. Downing, J. O. E. Meyer, E. V. D. Parr, B. Christiansen, and E. W. Terry. The Attorney General said that the murdered

woman was the concubine of Tsang Mook. The case for the Crown was that the prisoners murdered the woman at the request of and after payment by her husband. The husband was not in custody as he had departed from the Colony and was now beyond the reach of the law, and the prisoners stood to answer for what they had done at h s suggestion. The facts were that on May 10th, 1902. Mr. White, who lived in Wanchai, was disturbed by hearing sounds of quarrelling and later on piercing shricks and screams rang out. He went outside and found a woman lying on the side of the road, with a large wound in her abdomen. Almost immediately after, or a little before he arrived there, a Chinaman, Ip Sung, came up, and a statement, Ip Sung alleges, was made by the woman. That statement would be put in as evidence, permissible. For some time the matter remained a mystery, and although inquired into by the police, no clue could be found as to who it was that killed the woman. The woman died on the day following the one on which she was found lying wounded. From May until last October no one was charged with being implicated in the outrage, but between those months the police had been investigating and ultimately, from information received, they were, he \$25,000; that \$5,000 be written off rolling s ock, | believed, enabled to sheet the crime home to the reen in dock. One witness would be called, whose evidence, if believed, would convict the two men. The prosecution said that the .woman's husband wished to get rid of her and employed the two prisoners to kill the woman, and so do what he was afraid to do. The armangement was kept absolutely quiet and it was only because later on there was a split between those two that the police became cognisant of what had been done. They would have to rely upon the evidence of onr, who, although not an accomplice, knew, on his own showing, what was going on... The man was a witness of the name of Sang Yu Ting and his evidence was to the effect that on May 9th the two prisoners went into an opium divan where he was. He heard Tsang Sang say that the husband of deceased had recounted some shameful conduct of his wife's and said he would be satisfied if some one killed her. The husband offered the prisoners \$30 to kill her, and the divan witness said that he heard them say they were going to kill her that night. Witness then spoke to them and told them it was not a right thing to, do, that it was a very serious matter, and so on. They left the divan, but witness remained. He next saw the two prisoners on the night of May 11th, and they told him they had done what they had talked about, and offered him some money to say nothing about it, which he says 6,06 · 30 | he refused to take.

Evidence was then led, and the jury afterwards returned a verdict of "guilty" against. both men, who were accordingly sentenced to

ALLEGED MANSLAUGHTER.

Tasuke Tabai, a Japanese tallyman, was in dicted for the manslaughter of a Chinese coolie, at Quarry Bay, early on the morning of the 8th instant. He pleaded not guilty, and was defended by Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., instructed by Mr. J. Hays, of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master.

keley), instructed by Mr. H. Hursthouse and arrange for the contractors working over-15,418.25 (Messrs, Dennys and Bowley) prosecuted on 27.952.99 behalf of the Crown, and the following jury was sworn to try the case :-- Messrs. C. L. Gorman, 1.492.59 Schumaker, A. Reid, G. Rust, G. H. May, S. 750.47 Joseph, and J. Christie.

The Attorney General said it was alleged that, while the prisoner was in charge of a gang of coolies, working coal on a Japanese steamer, 30,866 79 at Quarry Bay, on the night of the 7th December, a dispute arose between him and one of the coolies, during the course of which, it was said by witnesses, he pushed the Chinaman over the side of the boat, with the result that the man was killed. The body was not re-5.261.18 | found that the skull was fractured. The case for 3,174.35 | the desence, before the Magistrate, and he 9 763 45 supposed it would be the same now, was that. while the prisoner was in charge of the coaling ing the way in which he was doing his work, and he became insolent and threw a lump of coal at the prisoner, who, thereupon, chased him. Deceased in trying to pass over a 3,000,00 | plank between the ship and the whart, fell 45,205.79 into the water, and the body was not recovered till some time later. Counsel pointed

board, without being touched by his pursuer, it would amount to manslaughter. There were several cases on the point, one of the best known being that in which the captain of a sailing ship was chastising a boy with a rope's end, and the lad, in endeavouring to escape. fell overboard. In that case the captain wa liable to a charge of manslaughter. In the present instance, however, the case for the Crown was not that the prisoner was pursued and that in endeavouring to get away he fell overboard, but that he was pushed into the

Evidence was then led.

Mr. Sharp, who appeared for defendant, stated that the case was a simple one. The coo'ie died from the results of a blow received in falling overboard from the Mandasu Maru, and no one regretted the circumstance more than the defendant. He would prove that defendant had done nothing unlawful and that death was due to misadventure. Defendant, a tally-clerk, was working at one of the hatches with two other clerks. They were there to prevent the coolies from "squeezing" coal, an it was therefore natural that these last did not regard them favourably. Defendant had been obliged to recall several coolies to reweigh their load. Just before the accident a lump of coal was thrown at defendant and he was struck on the head. It was not known who threw the population had woke up with the intention of goal, and immediately afterwards defendant Baw, or thought he saw, deceased throw another F. Bassford, S. A. Joseph, E. H. Summers, | piece. Defendant went over to the coolie with the intention of taking him to the foreman and The Attorney General, stated that on the lodging a complaint. The coolie ran off the 12th December the accused went to a shop | ship, down a plank, to the shore. While doing and purchased goods to the value, of a so he slipped, fell into the water and was killed

Evidence was then led. A verdict of not ment a note for five dollars. No change guilty was given, and prisoner was discharged

ROBBERY IN THE NEW TERRITORY. Wong Hing Kwai and Chan Sui were charged with receiving the proceeds of several robberies which took place in the village of Taitong, in the New Territory, on November 28th. Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., prosecuting on behalf of the Crown, stated that the Attorney-General had withdrawn the charge against not being sufficient. His Lordship gave instructions for his discharge and the accused was liberated. Chan Sui, on being charged, pleaded not guilty, and the following jury was sworn Messis, E. H. Summers (foreman), A. H. F. Bune, B. J. Spittles, G. H. May, C. B. Schumacher, A. Becker, and W. Domnick.

Mr. Sharp, for the prosecution, stated that prisoner was charged with receiving property consisting of clothing, jewellery and other objects, stolen by a gang of armed bandits on the 28th ultimo from two houses in the village of Taitong. The mining goods were found by the police in the house of prisoner in the village of Ping Un. It was probable that prisoner was a member of the gang, but there were only women present when the crime was committed and these were so terrified that they have been unable to identify accused. The robbers got into the first house, the only occupant of which was a sleeping woman. They seized every thing of value they could lay hands upon, and then ransacked the house next-door. The total value of the objects stolen was from \$60 to \$70. Six days later nearly all the missing property was found by the police in the house of the prisoner 'At the Magistracy, Chan Sui made a statement, amounting to an admission of the crime on which he was now charged. He said he knew the man brought the stolen property to his house. Evidence was then given by the people who had been robbed and the police officers who'f und the missing goods and arrested the prisoner. The jury, without retiring, returned a verdict of guilty and His · Lordship passed a sentence of two years' imprisonment with hard I bour.

The Court then adjourned sine die.

A COLLISION CASE.

At the Surreme Court on Tuesday, the Puisne Judge, His Honour A. G. Wise, heard an action brought by the Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited against Wong Sai Kam to recover the sum of \$20 in respect of damages caused to a launch by junk No. 197 colliding with it on the 23rd November last-Mr. J. H. Oxberry said he had charge of the hotel launch, and, on the day in question, was returning to Blake Pier with five or six passengers from the s. s. Siberia. When about 100 yards from the pier, he noticed a junk crossing his bows from the starboard side and his coxswain slackened down, allowing the ship to proceed across his bows. Suddenly she dramatic performances. We now see largedropped her sails and swung round, and, although the engine of the launch was put full speed astern, the junk crashed into her port side and smashed the stern of the cabin-The coxswain was called and said he first saw the junk on the port side, and although his Lordship questioned him at some length on the point, he adhered to the statement with the result that judgment was given for defendant.

CORRESPONDENCE. [We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by

THE RACE COURSE.

Correspondents in this column.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH." Sir,-Persons frequenting Happy Valley, must have noted with satisfaction the various modifications being carried out on the Race Course. Work is now in progress in front of the grand stand, where the water course is being concreted and bricked in, and I feel sure that many persons interested in the training of the animals for the races would greatly appreciate any steps which would hasten the completion of this much-needed improvement At present considerable inconvenience is occasioned by reason of the various materials lying about in all directions, and if the authorities The Attorney General (Hon. Sir H. S. Ber- | could be induced to provide additional labour, time, so that the improvements may be carried out with greater expedition, the many ladies and gentlemen who are in the habit of watchling the training—the most interesting part of the racing season-would undoubtedly appre-

> CHARIOTEER. Hongkong, 26th December, 1903.

ciate the effort.--Yours, etc.

MASONIC INSTALLATION.

Wor, Bro. C. F. Focken was installed on 10th inst. as R. W. M. of Lodge Eastern Scoti 1. 923, S. C. (Kowloon), by R.W.D.D.G.M., Rt. Wor. Bro. E. C. Pay. He then invested his officers as follows :- Deputy Master, Wor. Bro. H. B. Bridger; Substitute Master, Wor. Bro. P. D. Hyett; Wor. Sen. Warden, Bro. J. W. Graham; Wor Jun. Warden, Bro. D. Harvie; Secretary, Wor. Bro. H. Horley Treasurer, Wor. Bro. W. E. Claret; Organist, Bro. W. Orchar; Senior Deacon, Bro. J. J. Sibbit; Junior Deacon, Bro. J. McGlashan | Chaplain. Wilson; Director of Ceremonies, Bro. C. out that, if one man pursued another, and Filtock | Stewards, Bro. C. T. Letton, Bro. W. High the other, in fear of the life, fell over T, Stebbing; Tyler, Bro, Walpole,

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES. IN HONGKONG.

Though Christmas in Hongkong is not attended with the same pleasures and familiar joys traditional to the Homeland, no evidence was wanting yesterday that the inhabitants of our Colony, both young and old, in all classes of the community, did their utmost to celebrate the occasion with the usual brio, feasting and general fellowship we are used to associate with the Anglo-Saxon Yuletide. It would have been difficult, in this part of the world, to secure more propitious weather for the holiday, the weather being cool, bright and dry; in consequence of which trippers to Macao, excursionists into the New Territory and the members of the numerous yachting and picnic parties had a most enjoyable day. In Hongkong itself the festive season was kept up with all the enthusiasm that it merits. The ships in the harbour were dressed and carried at their mast-heads and yard-arms bunches of verdure that did duty for the absent holly and misletoe. The holels, police-stations, barracks and the Civil Hospital put on their Christmas garb, and from an early hour, the evident good humour and gaiety of all Hongkongites, one chanced to meet gave proof that the European portion of the keeping Christmas in the good old style. THE POLICE DANCE.

Members of the police force met at No. 7 Police Station last night to hold the annual dance. The ball-room was lavishly decorated with flags and appropriate mottoes, and tastefully festooned with ferns and flowers. The exterior of the ball-room and the drill-ground was bedecked with strings of Chinese lanterns, which, as they swaved in the breeze, added considerably to the charm of the scene. About two hundred members of the force and their friends attended, and joyiality was the order of the evening. Inside the ball-room numerous were the dancers that held the floor, while votaries of the green cloth found distraction in the card room. Features of the evening were a Strathspray and Reel, Miss Drumond, of Perth, and Reel of Wong Hing Kwan, the evidence against him | Tulloch by Mr. J. Sinclair. In one of the rooms below, an excellent supper was provided and most heartily appreciated by all. The arrangements were in the hands of a committee composed of the following: -- Chief Inspector Baker, President; Chief Detective Inspector Hanson Chairman; Inspector P. McNab, Vice-President; Lance Sergeant Lee, Sergeant Floyd Sergeant Hill, Police Constables Pitt, White, Cooper, and Last. The dance programme was entrusted to Police Sergeant Grant who is to be congratulated on the excel lent manner in which he fulfilled his duties as Master of Ceremonies. Great praise is due to the Hon. Secretary, Sergeant McDonald, who, with Inspector McNab, worked hard to ensure the enjoyment of all present, the success of their efforts being evident in the complete success o the function.

THE ARMY AND NAVY. As usual, our sailors and soldiers were to the fore in their rejoicings. High junketings took place on board the men-of-war in the harbour and the lower-deck was feasted in high style Jack drank to the health and success of his officers, who came down to his quarters and in return, toasted the "man behind the gun." At the Naval Vard, the quarters of the Yard Police were elaborately adorned with bunting, and every preparation was made by its occupants to have a "right good time." At 11 a.m. Rear-Admiral and Mrs. Robinson, Commander and Mrs. Dawes and other officials visited the men. The Chief of the Station expressed. his satisfaction at the excellent manner in which they had served under his orders, complimented them on the tasteful decorations displayed and drank to their health, success and well being. The members of the corps then sat down to an excellent spread and a most enjoyable afternoon was spent.

of all the corps in garrison the non-commissioned officers and men leasted and fêted The traditional visits were paid to the different messes by the officers and toasts were exchanged. No untoward incident marred the general good feeling prevalent during the day and with civilian, Jack and Tommie alike Christmas in Hongkong was a "rattling good time."

CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS.

In the days before histrionic talent had much opportunity to crystallise, itself in theatres, many Christmas customs took the aspect o headed pigmies and Christmas fairies while sitting at case at the pantomime; but, with our ancestors, the mummers, who represented to them a similar form of amusement, strolled from house to house, and street to street, sometimes—it is recorded—even invading the parish church. Christmas time was one huge, spectacular entertainment, and the simpler the nation, the more noticeable a tendency to dramatise either the event which yesterday celebrated, or some old custom that has become identified with it. Even in these modern days these old customs linger among the less civilised nations. The mountaineers of Service appoint a Christmas guest, called a "Polaznik whose duty it is to approach the household this important morning, and announce the birth Christ. He then scatters corn about the floor, while the housewife, responding, "Verily, is born," flings a handful in his face; but what the symbolic meaning of this action may be is not explained. A lengthy dialogue is then gone through, during which the "Polaznik" receives and gives numerous presents; ceremonies of a similar nature taking place during the day. In German villages for the "Poleznik" is substituted our familiar Father Christmas, attired in white, with a gilt or pink belt. But English children—a certain Knight Rupert whose duty it is to carry the huge bag of toys for his master, and empty the contents out before the wondering children. A touch of unparalleled jump. No one knows how news solemnity is added to the ceremony by the spreads throughout the aristocratic parlieus fact that if the Father hears a bad account of founded by False Creek, Columbia avenue. the children from their parents, he leaves, instead of playthings, a rod, with strict injuncthan with us. On Christmas Eve the children where, on this day of peace and good-will, the morning, looking for information. minder to marry before next Christmas.

Christmas tree, though associated with Germany, is a relic of Paganism, having been first of the rumour was heard, said that the advance known in Egypt. A palm tree was used by this pation at the time of the winter solstice to Russia and Japan, but, their San Francisco symbolise the completed year, as this plant advisers were evidently away off. Nanaimo puts forth a branch every month, and by the time mentioned the branches would number twelve. The Yule log had also its peculiar Nov. 21,-(Special)-There was wild exciteceremonies, less observed in England now Bio. J. W. Osbornes Inner-Guard, Bro. R. than formerly, and for obvious reasons completely omitted from a Hongkong Christmas 3.4 to 79. The sudden rise has create in patile festival. In some places the log really consisted of two small oak trees, which were Loral banks can offer no explanation.

covered with silk ribbons, flowers, etc. A bian i if the log was always kept in the house till next Christmas, and was supposed to protect the house against fire, though it was noticed that even the most superstitious housewife gave her chimney a good cleaning some three days previous to the ceremony, to guard against the leaping of these Christmas flames. It was commonly held that ill-luck would fall on the house if the Yule log while burning was approached by a person that, squinted or was bare-footed—the latter hardly being a likely contingency in the depth of winter. A woman who was flat-footed was also never allowed to approach flames as sacred almost as those of Vesta. In Burgundy the children find their gifts, not in their stocking as with us, but at each end of the log, which they fancy grows these playthings as a kind of magic fruit.

Shakespere states that at this season of the year, "No spirit dare stir abroad," but the Swedish peasantry hold a different opinion, for on Christmas Eve they fancy that witches have more power than usual, and therefore remain indoors all that night. In case the hens might: be affected by the malign influence, and refuse to lay, they are careful to put a little straw into their nests. A prettier superstition, once universal, is to the effect that for one hour after midnight on Christmas Eve, animals are gifted with reason and speech, while an ancient belief existed that on this day lost souls ceased to suffers, and enjoyed a few "hours!" respite from

Something of the old earth worship common to Pagan nations is to be found even nowadays. in the Christmas rites of some English counties. In Devonshire hot cakes and cider are offered as a sacrifice to the chief apple-tree, as a hint to it to bear good fruit in the oncoming year. pistols being let off and songs sung as an additional reminder. In other districts spiced hle is sprinkled on some of the fields, while in Hampshire something of the same ceremony is gote through, to the accompaniment of rough

"Apples and pears and right good corn Come in plenty to everyone; Eat and drink good cake and hot ale. Give Earth to drink she'll not fail." In Marmion, Sir Walter Scott gives a pleasing picture of an old-time Christmas, when he describes how.

"The great hall table's oaken face. Scrubbed till it shone the day to grace, Bore then upon its massive board No mark to part the squire and lord." Temporary, equality between servant and master was a feature of old Christmases, and sometimes led to considerable licence in the festival week. A similar custom was observed during the Roman Saturnalia, from which many of our Christmas customs are derived. A relic of this old freedom is said to exist in Cheshire, where the farmers are put to much inconvenience, because their servants go off in a body on Christmas Eve, not returning to their duties till New Year's Day. The interval they spend in merry making in the city, putting up at an inn at night. This custom is naturally regarded with aversion by the housewives, but the Hongtong servant has improved upon it, for he goes off holiday making according to his own sweet will and fancy, and stays away altogether.

ROWING MEN AT DINNER

A most enjoyable evening was spent at Kowloon on Wednesday, when about seventy members and friends of the Victoria Recreation Club set down to a capital spread provided by Mr. J Osborne, at the Kowloon Hotel: The Chairman of the Club was unable to attend. owing, wounderstand, to slight indisposition, and his seat at the head of the table was taken by Mr. H. C. Austen, who proved an excellent

After the dinner, the Chairman proposed the

health of the King, and "The Prosperity of the Nor was the Army behind in keeping up the Club," coupled with the name of the Hon. spirit of our English Xmas, and in the barracks | Secretary, was submitted by Lieut. Newman of the Amphitrite, and responded to by Mr. Austen, who said the Club was in a flourishing condition, the members totalling 400. During the winter he hoped to be able to arrange scratch rowing races for the members, and he announced that, in March next, athletic sports would take place. He alluded to the competence of the new rowing captain, Mr. F. Lammert, and concluded by proposing the health of the late Secretary, Mr. F. W. White. The latter, in responding, said that although he was departing from the Colony shortly, he would still follow the fortunes of the V. R. C. He offered to donate a prize at the next sports and thanked the members for their cordiality. Mr. J. J. Leiria toasted The Visitors, and Mr. Moller, from Shanghai replied. The Press was rext honoured by Mr. F. White, and having been acknowledged, the Ladies were toasted by Mr. F. Lammert. Mr. F. D. Bain responded on their behalf. Mr. Nobbs spoke a few words on sport in general, and advised all athletes. who desired exercise, to join the Volunteers, where they would receive sufficient manual training to develope their muscles.

> Captain Cowlishaw, of the Brilliani, was unavoidably detained, but the ship was represented by the Chief Officer, Mr. Cummings, the Second Officer and two apprentices. The health of the Captain was honoured amid cheers. and Mr. Cummin. s, in response, said the Captain and officers of the Brilliant were delighted with the success of the Regatts, and approciated the courtesy of the Club in extending so cordial an invitation to them.

> > HONGKONG EXCHANGE.

EX ITEMENT IN CHINATOWN,

According to a Vancouver paper, dated 21st ult, in every place in Chinatown where the wealthy Orientals of Vancouver mostly conhe is accompanied by a retainer unknown to gregate there was violent excitement that morning. By some subtle way there spread through every section a report that the Houge kong rate of exchange had taken "an Carrall street and Market alley, but Marconi i not in it in the matter of quick transmission. tions not to be sparing in its use. In Germany observes the journal. The story that bothered there is at the same time much more mirth the Chinese financiers was that Hongkong and much more sentiment about this festival exchange had jumped nearly 50 per cent. When the sun went down Friday evening it offer their presents to their parents, while on stood at about 43; to-day it was rumoured that the day itself the parents give theirs; the it had taken a leap to nearly 80. This meant scenes, on both occasions, an on-looker has a very serious state of affairs to many observed, being very affecting. Quite by itself | leading | men in Chinatown, and they were is a custom once known in an Italian province, on hand when the banks opened this women were wont to drag all old bachelors bank officials straightway informed them into the church and beat them well, as a re- | that it was a canard, originated in San Francisco. Hongkong exchange is steady and Like many other adjuncts of this season, the closed to-day as it did yesterday, a fraction under 44. Chinamen, when the first, whisper was caused by the declaration of war between apparently had a similar experience, fudging from the following despatch: Nanairio, B. C. ment in Chingtown to-day over a sudden lithin in the Hongkong rate of exchange from "ke among the leading marchants of Chinatown. World's entertainers.

The opening performance of the short season to be given in Hongkong by the Arthur Hill Company of Vaudeville Stars attracted many people to the Theatre Royal on Wednesday, where a very enjoyable entertainment was witnessed. The company is by no means large one, but what there is of it is of the there is no doubt it is one of the strongest combinations of its kind that has been seen in Hongkong for some time. Leonard Nelson, who styles himself a plain comedian "poor, proud and particular," is one of the principal artists in the company, and is a world of solid amusement, contributing largely to the success of the entertainment, which was full of novelty and mirth. Another attractive feature of the programme was Miss Leslie Norman, whose fine contralto voice was greatly appreciated. She was several times re-called, and had to respond to most enthusinvic encores. Then there was a clever turn given by Lazern the Mystic, whose novelties were performed with perfect skill and finesse Mr. Victor Kelly kept the audience in continual ripple of hughter with his quaint dry humour and amusing specialty,

#### THE SHANGHAI COTTON MILLS

Parade." There were other items which also

created unbounded admiration, and, altogether

the entertainment was excellent throughout.

Visitors to Shanghai on coming up the river would naturally observe that the Glasgow of the East is fast becoming also the Manchester of these parts. The wave of Westernisation in the direction of manufacturing industry\_has, at\_ last swept over the land in spite of all official obstruction, thanks to the Chino-Japanese treaty, concluded after the war. The many mills with which both the banks of the river are studded are well worth a visit, though the description of one will almost do duty for all.

The three mills on the Yangtzepoo Road were built simultaneously and there was a bi of a race as to which would be a going concern first. The Laou Kung Mow won the day and should therefore be considered the pioneer Mill in Shanghai. It is owned by a limited liability company and the 'opening ceremony took place on the 19th March, 1897, under the presidency of Sir (then Mr.) C. J. Dudgeon, the Chairman of the Board of Directors.

The mill occupies a large area of ground. Just at the gateway in an unpretentious little building is the manager's office. Passing this, one comes to the main building which is the mill proper. But to begin the inspection with the engine room, one has to go to the rear of the mill where the engine building is situated. The building is raised some six feet above ground and the doorway is approached by broad flight of stone steps. Once inside, it will become apparent that ample provision has been made for elbow room and free admission of light and air in case of any future expansion. The room is 70 feet long by 30 feet wide and is so feet high. Overhead is a powerful traveller for use in lifting any of the heavy parts of the engines which may be required to be moved for inspection, cleaning or repairs. The engines, it need hardly be said, are a standing testimony of the thoroughness and solidity of British workmanship. They are by Vates and Thom of Blackburn and built on the triple expansion system and are horizontal with four cylinders. They drive the fly pulley wheel which is grooved for twenty-nine ropes and this huge wheel is twenty-four feet in diameter, six feet wide, and weighs forty-two tons. The ropes running carry the power to the main lines of shafting whence it is supplied all over the buildings to be served. The arrangements for lubrication are such that it is possible not only to keep the engines sufficiently oiled but also to keep them free from dust and superfluous oil with ease and perfect safety. The engines are named Isabelle and Sofia, after Lady Dudgeon and Mrs. Anderson, the spouses of two of the Directors.

The next place to visit is the boiler house. which is 70 feet long by 45 feet broad and roofed with galvanised iron. Here are three Lancashire boilers each 30 feet long by 8 feet in diameter with a working pressure of 180 lbs. The boilers which were solidly bricked in and covered with nonconducting composition, were constructed by Thomas Beeley of Hyde, Manchester. The power plant on the whole is of a very costly pattern, but the economy in fuel has amply repaid for the capital expenditure.

The scutching room to be seen next contains machinery by Lord Bros. of Todmorden. In these the raw material goes through its first Straight form the pod as it were the fibre is placed into a feeder and delivered automatically to the opener, thence it passed into a scutcher attached and thence in the form of a lap to an intermediate and afterwards a finishing scutcher. From here to the carding engines and finally to the spinning machines, where the material comes out in the form of yarn. The main building where these processes are carried out is 425 feet long by 120 feet wide and consists of a ground and upper floor. On the ground floor are the cording engines, scutchers, and other heavy machinery and on the upper the spinning machinery have been put up. Here are provisions for 50,000 spindles. Each spindle when working makes 7,000 revolutions per minute. The spinning machinery is by Tweedales and Smalley of Castleton, Lancashire. The numerous automatic registering contrivances to record the the minutest details are marvels of ingenuity. The whole of the upper floor is splendidly lighted and the ventilation is perfect throughout, considering the large number of operatives that are employed here. The roof is slightly pitched rising I in 10 from the sides to the centre which allows a sufficient fall for rain water, to catch which is a specially designed gutter running all round the building, and the principal features of which are rapid disposal of water and freedom from leakage.

Part of the lower portion of the building is off for a packing room where the packing is done by means of an hydraulic

of the mud and faced with stone and with a insisted on a large reduction in the estimates. the waste water from the engines which is used a result of the Representation for the strict recorded. over again, being drawn out from the end | enforcement of the Treaties made by the six nearest to the mill.

are two engines and two dynamos, each of the Diet on a vote of want of confidence in the

boards. Besides there are automatic closing from its predecessors. - Kohe Chronicle.

doors between the rooms, so hung that on the temperature reaching 157 (F) a link fuses and releases the door, which slips guillotine wise into iron fastenings where it effectually closes the aperture and prevents the issuing of flames or smoke. Underneath the ground floor of the scutching room are several tunnels through which by a powerful current of air the inflammable dust of the mill is drawn off and blown into the open air, having its outlet, near the chimney shaft, which is built of red brick, 125

feet high and 20 feet square at the base. We have to the best of our ability essayed to give a clear description of the various machinery but some of them are such marvels of human invention or ingenuity that their details baffle a comprehensive description. A visit therefore to the mill would not only prove amusing but highly instructive.—Shanghai Mercury.

#### THE VOTE OF CENSURE IN TH MIKADOS ADDRESS.

EXPLANATION BY MR. KONO.

PRESS OPINION. Mr. Kono, the President of the House of Representatives, who drafted the remarkable and unusual Address in reply to the Imperial Message, which was the direct cause of the dissolution of the Diet on the 11th inst. is now the chief object of public attention.

It is stated in the Kobs Chronicle that Mr. Kone took the course he did with deliberation and a full sense of responsibility, being resolved to resign the 'presidency of the 'House and also his membership of the House should the Address be rejected. Mr. Kono had even drawn up his papers of resignation. He is reported to have stated to a personal friend that he had firmly resolved to refuse to allow the reply to be again opened to debate. -Had the motion to reconsider it been carried? by a large majority, it was his intention immediately to resign the presidency and also his membership for having, as he explained, disturbed the Imperial mind by submitting such a reply. Mr. Kono accepts all responsibility for the document. In an interview with the Tokyo representative of the Asaki, the late President said he had long disappoved of the custom by which the Address in reply to the Imperial Message was made a mere formality. He desired to introduce an innovation and include in the reply the sentiment of the House, and when he was nominated he put this view into practice.

On the 8th instant, Mr. Kono continued, he met Messrs. Ozaki (Mayor of Tokyo), Mr. Akiyama (proprietor and editor of the Niroku), and two other prominent men, and consulted with them on the formation of an alliance of the Opposition parties. A proposal was then made to include the opinion of the House in the Address in reply to the Imperial Message. Mr. Kono, however, deliberately opposed the proposal, as he had already himself secretly decided to frame a reply in the sense, and if the matter was discussed by others he feared the secret would be divulged. He alone was responsible for the departure from the old

The Jifi contends that there is nothing improper in the fact that the sentiment expressed in the Address should show a change with the times. Whatever form it takes, however, when once approved by the House, it must be regarded as a vote of the House. The Government may dissolve the Diet [this article appeared before the dissolution had actually taken placel, but after such an admonition it should devote its whole attention to the present diplomatic question and discharge its duty to the best of its nower.

The Nippon strongly approves the course taken by the House, and urges that it should be followed by an address of impeachment of the Ministry, to be presented to the Emperor, in order that the Cabinet may be overturned for deceiving the whole nation. Our contemporary holds that the remarkable reply of the House to the Imperial Speech, which might otherwise have caused a stormy debate, was well engineered. It was carried unanimously, and it was an expression of the opinion of

The Yomiuri also warmly applauds the Address, and points out that the proceedings of the House of Representatives on Thursday last were unprecedented in many respectsthat the reply contained an impeachment of the Government, that the address of impeachment was carried unanimously, that the reply was drawn up by the President of the House who was elected to that office by an unprecedented majority, and finally that the reply was carried by the unanimous vote of the House. There has been no precedent for such proceedings in the past, and the incident may not have its equal in the future.

Naturally, the Kokumin, a Government organi strongly condemns the whole affair, while it describes the course taken by the Opposition as highly disrespectful to the Throne, abominable in the extreme, and a specimen of the shabby and secret intrigue by which the character of the House has been destroyed.

#### THE CONVOCATION OF THE

DIET. : NUMBER OF DISSOLUTIONS SINCE DIET

ESTABLISHED.

the Diet has been dissolved a new Diet must be convoked within five months from the day of dissolution, and an Imperial proclamation for the convocation of the Diet, fixing the date of its assembly, must be issued at least forty days beforehand. Last year the Diet was dissolved on the 28th December and the general elections took place on the 1st March following, the new Diet being convoked in May, It is therefore expected that, as before, the next general elections will take place in March, and the new Diet will be convoked in May. Since this was written a Rescript has been issued fixing the elections for the 1st March.]

The Japanese Diet has been dissolved no less than seven times since the Diet was established in 1890—that is, there have been seven dissolutions in thirteen years,

The first Diet, elected about August 1890, factions in the House, the Liberals excepted, To light the whole mill by electricity there In May 1894 the Ito Cabinet dissolved the former being of 16 h p. and constructed by | Ministry, made by the alliance of the foregoing Marshall and Sons of Gainsborough. The six factions, the Liberals again excepted. The each dynamo at 100 volts. Each of the dynamos vote of want of confidence, due to an alliance and accounts as submitted were passed. A furnishes light for too lamps of 10 candle on this occasion between the Liberals and dividend of 5 per cent for the season ending fitting shop adjoin and are 50 feet long by 18 June 1898, by the Ito Cabinet, and was brought posal of Mr. W. D. Little and seconded by fire. Then the upper floors are semi-fire dissolution, just effected as a result of the also resolved that he next annual general

#### MONOPOLIES IN TONKING INSTRUCTIONS FROM PARIS.

Owing to the difficulties of all nature that have occurred during the last fow years in the administration of the different monopolies, and the continual discussions arising between the Government of French Indo-China and the different farmers, the Cabinet, in Paris, have decided that, in the future, these concessions will be granted for the term of one year only A proviso, in each contract, leaves to the government the facility of repurchase at any time within that period, if necessary. - Instructions to this effect have been forwarded to the Governor General, M. Beau. In the meanwhile, the authorities in Tonking have their hands ful litigating the numerous claims for compensation made by several of the farmers, & It is said that the new measure will have a depressing effect on big enterprises of this nature.

#### THE MERCANTILE PLEET OF JAPAN.

#### SOME INTERESTING FIGURES.

A number of statistics relative to the deve lopment of the Japanese merchant marine have appeared in the Tokio Keizai. It was in 1870 or thereabouts, the journal recalls, that the Japanese began to turn their attention to the carrying trade, in the modern sense of the term, but its growth was slow until the Chinese War of 1894-5. The following table gives the figures for the eleven years from 1802 to 1002 inclusive:—

usive .—	•			
Year.				Tons.
1892			***	214,000
1893				325,000
1894		• • • •	*** : ***	320,000
. 1895				386,000
1896	• • • • • , •,			417,000
1897				486,000 ·
1898	• ••• •	• • • •		648,000
1899				796,000
1900			***	863,000
1901	• ••••		***	917,000
1002	. • <u></u>			024:000

From the comparative statistics published in the lournal, it is seen that, while in 1892 the Japanese mercantile fleet was the thir teenth in the world in point of tonnage, had riten by 1901 to the eighth position, and it is interesting to note that it is rapidly coming up to the same relative status as that occupied by the Japanese Navy, the position of which is the seventh among the navies of the world. In the same journal there is an interesting article by Captain Hirayama, I.J.N Director of the Nautical College, in which the writer discusses the relative positions of foreign ners and Japanese in the Japanese merchant service. Captain Hirayama expresses the opinion that it is of great importance to Japan that her mercantile marine should be under the command of her own officers. That this truth was early appreciated by Japan was shown by the strenuous efforts made by her to procure a supply of well-educated officers The growth of the merchant service, however, has been so rapid that the supply of well trained officers has not kept pace with the demand. According to statistics obtained by Captain Hirayama from the Nippon Yuson Kaiska, and carefully digested by him, the total numbers of officers on company's European, Australian, American, Bombay and Shanghai liners was 203, o whom 184 were Japanese and 109 foreigners. On closer examination of the statistics it is found that the higher ranks of the service are almost monopolised by foreign officers, as is shown by

the followwing table:-Officers. Foreign. Japanese. Commanders..... Chief engineers..... First officers ..... First engineers..... Second officers..... Second engineers... Third officers Third engineers ...

The Austrian and European liners are all commanded by foreign officers, whereas one steamship on the American and one on the Shanghal line are under Japanese captains, who are graduates of the Nautical College, O the foreign lines mentioned above, the only one exclusively officered and manned Japanese is the Bombay service. As for the same company's other foreign lines, namely those of North China and Vladivostock, as well as the coasting services, they are for the most part officered by Japanese. So also are the ships owned by the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, and other companies.—Kobe Herald.

#### THE MONEY MARKET PROS PECT, JAPAN.

A Tokyo banker writing to the Yomiuri reference to the future of the economical situation, expresses the opinion that economic circles of the country, through long political disturbances, have failed to note the sluggishness of the money market. But as the political situation gets easier, business men are According to the Constitution of Japan, when awakening to the fact, that a large amount of money is lying idle in the banks, and is generally anticipated that the circulation will become more sluggish than ever, Government, says the banker, declares that preparations are so made that the country prepared either for war or peace. If the preparations be really made by the Government for promoting works in Manchutia and Korea upon the peaceful settlement of the Manchuria question, as they certainly are for war, the money ready to be used for war will be required for enterprise in China and Korea. Though the greater part of the money so required will probably be raised by the issue of bonds abroad, the money market in Japan may be in some degree affected. The present sluggishness is due to the diplomatic difficulty, and if everything is settled in peace, the economic Circles of this country, which have long been was dissolved in December 1891 by the oppressed by the situation, will recover, and Matsugata Cabinet because of the alliance the demand for money will be followed by Within the compound is a huge tank dug out | between the Liberals and Progressists, which | such a stringency of circulation that the large margin of Y40,000,000, left within the legal capacity of one million gallons. To the Two years later came the second dissolution, limit of the amount of Bank of Japan notes to farthest end of this tank a flume conveys all effected in December 1893 by the Ito Cabinet- be issued free of tax, may never again be

#### THE PERAK SUGAR CULTIVA-TION COMPANY, LD.

The eighteenth annual general meeting of

#### RUSSIA'S REPLY TO JAPAN. REPORTED TERMS

IMPORTANT RUSSIAN CONCESSIONS.

The Tokio correspondent of the Mainich gives the following as the gist of the Russian Government's reply to the Japanese proposals relative to the diplomatic difficulty. Russia will to a certain extent satisfy the Japanese demands concerning Manchuria with a view to securing an amicable settlement. Vicero Alexieff's aggressive attitude will not be maintained. It is doubtful if the concessions as to Manchuria are of a nature that will satisf Japan. With regard to Corea, it is said that the Russian reply completely recognises Japan' supremacy in that country. The delay in sending the reply is said to have been caused by great differences in the Russian Government concerning the answer which should be given

In reference to Corea, the Mainichi correspondent points out that the Powers recognise Japan's financial supremacy in Corea and Great Britain distinctly recognises Japan's supremacythere politically, by virtue of the Treaty of Alliance. Japan has demanded a similar recognition on the part of Russia. The Russian Government have attempted to lease Chinkaiwan or Masampo with a view to preventing a menace to their interests by Japan securing the command of the Corean Strait Russia has also instituted a vigorous policy in north Corea. It was also reported recently that she concluded a secret convention respect ing the engagement of military officers. Russia has not shown a disposition to comply with the Japanese demands. If she now consents to recognise Japan's supremacy there, by entering into a new convention with Japan, Japan will not be molested in her movements in the peninsula in future. This may be only a reasonable concession in Japanese eyes; but (if i is made) it will be a great concession on the part of Russia.

In regard to the evacuation of Manchuria the correspondent points out if the Russian troops are withdrawn and Manchuria is restored to the Peking authorities in order to reaffirm the integrity of the Chinese Empire in the North one of the most difficult questions between Japan and Russia will be solved However reasonable, it cannot be denied that it is a great concession to ask from Russia having regard to her original programme to defer the evacuation and remain in possession of the provinces. It is, however, believed that a certain number of railway guards will be

stationed there. In regard to the establishment of Consular Courts in Port Arthur and Dainy, it is pointed out that the legal status of Port Arthur and Dalny will not be settled for a long time. The American Government have recognised the legal standing of Russia in these places, but the Japanese Government hold that the places have been leased from China by Russia and that Consular Courts in these places ought to be recognised. Russia is prepared to consento the Japanese demand on this point, but it doing so she is really making a concession.

As to the res orn ion of Newchwang and the abolition of the Russian quarantine arrange ments there, it is pointed out that the port is the only trading place for Japan in North China and the restoration of the place to Chin will be greatly beneficial to Japan. Russia has held the place and controlled the quarantine arrangements there in order to interfere with the trade of other nations. Russia's aim was to transfer the local trade to Dalny. The abandonment of Newchwang by Russia has been strongly urged by Japan and other powers but Russia has been most reductant to give in upon this matter. Russia has, however, consented to grant the Japanese demand for the restoration of Newchwang to China and relinquish control of the quarantine and Customs.

The correspondent adds that there may be subsidiary clauses in the proposed agreement, but the foregoing are believed to constitute the basis of the draft convention.—Kobe being almost all Chinese.—Ex. Herald.

#### CHINESE AGRICULTURALISTS IN PERAK.

Of the Chinese recruited by Dr. Leuring at Foochow for the Government agricultural Colony at Sitiawan in Perak, several hundreds have arrived that Mr. J. P. Rodger, the late Resident of Perak, writes thus on the subject to the Resident-General under date 31st October:-

Thanks to the exertions of the Protector of Chinese (Mr. Cowan) and the District Officer, Lower Perak (Mr. Brewster), every arrangement had been made for the reception and comfortable installation of these immigrants, in buildings already prepared on the land assigned to them at Sitiawan. Nothwithstanding their unfortunate detention in Singapore [Si John's Island] I am glad to say that the 363 Immigrants landed at Sitiawan are all doing well, and there is a fair prospects of their agriculural settlement proving successful. I consider that Dr. Luering is deserving of high commendation for the manner in which he has carried out the duties entrusted to him, on behalf of the Perak Government, and I have caused him to be so informed.

Under date 26th October Dr. Lucring thus reports on the Colony :--Since the 9th August I have visited the Colony thrice, and, though we are not yet quite settle, the parcelling out of the land not yet having been completed, I am glad to state that a large terrain has already been cleared by the colonists and has been planted with rubber, vegetables," especially pointoes, the season being too late for paddy. I have no doubt that with the further consideration and benevolence of the Government towards the scheme, the whole district in which the Colony is situated will soon assume a new and more promising

#### SIR BRANK SWETTENHAM'S SUCCESSOR.

The retirement of Sir Frank Swettenham is

of the Federated Malay States, If a man new to the Colony be appointed he will not have a very easy task, for several of the older officials of the Colony have or are about to retire, while the transference to other Colonies of the best of our younger men has left a considerable gap. Mr. C. W. S. Kynnersley, the doyen of the Service, takes up the Resident General-ship of the F. M. S. next April, but only for a short period, as he proposes to retire at the end of next year. Although a service composed mainly of seniors often produces stagnation, yet, on the other hand. links between the old and the new are very desirable to secure continuity of policy. There are two furrows that we should have liked to have seen ploughed to the end by Sir Frank Swettenham, -Singapore Harhour Improvement and, the railway connection with the north; and our currency reform. I may be that a new-comer would think differently on these schemes and throw them back, and that we believe would be a genuine calamity for the Colony.—S. F. P.

#### MORE RUSSIAN WARSHIPS

FOR THE FAR EAST.

The St. Petersburg Viedomosti states that it intended to send to the Far East next year he Russian transport Kamehatka, of 7,200 tons, which has been built at the new Admiralty yards, and is now lying in the Neva. She is designed to supply coal to warships affort, and has accommodation for 3,500 tons; also for 32 officers, 1,000 men, and 16 horses. Russian gunboat Khivinets, which is being build at the stone dock of the new Admiralty 'yards, is intended to protect Russian interest n the Persian Gulf.

The Kronstadtski Viestnik states that the Russian cruiser Dmitri Donskoi arrived at Cadiz on November 9, and the t.b.d.'s Bulni and Brodri at Algiers on November 10, all outward bound; for the Far East, The Viedomosti states that the new Russian battleship Osliabia, on her way from Kronstadt to the Far East has been compelled to go into dry dock at Spezia, owing to damage received in the Atlantic some time at night. The precise occasion of the damage was unobserved by the crew, and it was not until water was found to be increasing in the hold and investigations were made as to the cause of this that the damage was discovered. The ship will not be able to proceed on her journey until the beginning of next year,

#### A NEW STEAMSHIP SERVICE FOR THE ORIENT.

A consular report from Lima, Peru, (quoted by the Japan Times) says that the local Chinese residents have promoted a new steamship company called the Compania Maritima Occidental a Vapor, with the object of opening a new steamship service between Peru and the East. At present marine communication. confined to the round-about route via North America. It is true that there is one Italian sailing vessel plying between Callan, Peru, and Hongkong, but she makes only two voyages a year, a single voyage lasting two or even three months. Then, Japanese steamers, carrying emigrants, make occasional trips to Peru, but they only connect this country and Peru. Moreover, the Peruvian Government and leading business-men are now bent on finding some means of opening active tradal relations with Japan. All these considerations have encouraged the Chinese promoters of the present scheme. This company will have a capital of \$25,000, and though the sum may seem inadequate for such an enterprise, it will be sufficient for the company, which is to charter vessels for the time being and does not contemplate owning any. The company's capital has already been subscribed to the amount of about \$20,000, the shareholder

#### GOLD PROSPECTING IN CEYLON.

RESULT OF AN EXPERT'S INVESTIGATIONS.

Rumours of hidden wealth, in the shape of gold, have been current in Ceylon from the earliest times, and the precious metal has been sought for by Europeans and Australians for half a century or more. Sir West Ridgeway, the late energetic Governor of the island. engaged the services of a gold expert from Home with a view to obtaining some definite knowledge as to whether gold existed, and, if so, in what quantities. Mr. George Dixon, the expert appointed, arrived at Colombo at the end of May, 1902, and his report has just been issued. Mr. Dixon set to work with a will, and travelled over 3,000 miles, 1,078 of which he covered on foot. His general survey of the country, an area of about 24,000 square miles, is a fairly complete one, and has proved that there are in Ceylon practically no gravel terraces, and that the shallow gold deposits which are worked by the digger in other countries are not extensive or likely to be remunerative enough to attract investors. Wherever gravel was found it was tested, and in the hundreds of tests made the above-mentioned results were always obtained, though Mr. Dixon believes that by the dredging system, if suitable places were found and the gold saving appliances were modified to suit the conditions necessary for saying both gem and gold, the undertaking, if properly managed. would pay.

TRACES OF ANCIENT GOLD WORKINGS, One interesting point in Mr. Dixon's report, says the Madras Mail, is that there are no old gold workings in Ceylon. The natives in former times, cunning miners that they were, though they knew of the existence of gold, did not work the gravels for it, which, we believe. bears out the theory of gold prospectors this country, that where old gold workings exist gold will be found, but not elsewhere. which period I fear that the population will Mr. Dixon also corroborates what the Austra continue to suffer great inconvenience in dry from the Governorship of the Straits Settle. [ lians and other Europeans who have worked | summers, ments, and not necessarily from the Colonial the gravels in more recent times found, viz., Service. It seems likely that Sir Frank's that they could not make the work pay. He the Government offices. The Colonial offices medical advisers have decided a; ainst a further | found in one place a few fair-sized flakes of period of service out here. He was not in the gold, but the average value of the gravel was was acquired in 1848, when the population was best of health when he went home. The terms only 4hd. per cubic yard. In no case was a 21,000. The Post Office was built-in-1865, \_\_\_\_\_ of the announcement, "retiring from the single rich find of gold made, and that, in a when the population was 125,000. The population was 125,000. The population was 125,000. Governorship" do not preclude the possibility | digger's country, he says, is the first thing | lation is now 412,000, New Law Courts and of our late Governor assuming other duties in necessary to start mining on an extended scale. Post Office are being erected at an ultimate connection with the Colonial Office. If his It must not be forgotten, however, that these health holds out, it is exceedingly probable remarks refer to surface work only, and that no that his valuable services will be availed of in | inquiry has been made as to what minerals dynamos which were made at the Crompton fourth dissolution was by the Matsugata the above company's some capacity, although whether or not in the occur at depth. The presence of alluvial gold, publication in every Colony in the Empire, in Works, Essex, have an amperage of 370 for Government in December 1897, again on a offices Shanghai, on 16th inst. The reports capacity hinted at by the writer in the Glasgisto even in minute quantities, implies, as Sir West Herald remains to be seen. The question Ridgeway says in his Review of his Aministra. public officers with whose work he has failed that naturally arises is, who is likely to succeed tion, that there must be, or must have been, to make himself acquainted. It is in Justice power. The electric light engine room and Progressists. The fifth dissolution occurred in 30th September, 1903, was declared, on the pro- to the Governorship of this Colony. Gossip rocks from out of which this gold has been to them that I write. In such an investigation seems to have selected Sir C. A. Moloney; washed, Mr. Dixon does not think that the as Mr. Ireland has undertaken literary capacity feet wide. Overhead are the quarters for the about by the opposition of the House to the Sir Charles Dudgeon, Mr. W. D. Little was Governor of Trinidad and Tobago, who has gold which has been found in the gravel had without accuracy is an ignis faining If the increase of the Land-tax. Last year's dissolut re-elected a director of the company on the had a varied career of colonial service in West, lits origin in the gneiss, but in either a capping report to be submitted to the University of The heating throughout is by steam. There tion, as is well known, was the result of the proposal of Mr. F. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Africa, British Honduras and the Windward rock which has long since been worn away, or Chicago be no more accurate as regards other are elaborate arrangements for coping with protest of the Constitutionalists and Progressists J. M. Young Mr. T. Brent proposed and Mr. Islands. Sir H. E. McCallum, Governor possibly in a fold of hornblende schist such as Colonies of the British Empire than that with any outbreak of fire, in the first place there is against the continuation of the higher rate of A. J. Jones seconded that Mr. G. R. Wingrove of Nats, is also credited with having ex- occurs in the Kolar Gold Field. If the theory which he has favoured you on Hongkong, it a thorough installation of Grinnell sprinklers the Land-tax. The Katsura Cabinet, as now, be reappointed the company's auditor at a pressed a desire to return to the Straits, and is correct the gold produced from that capping will be but a sorry vade mecum for the study which have extinguished many an incipient was in power. It will be seen that the seventh remuderation of Tis. 350 per annum. It was there is no reason why he should not come rock will be found not in the hills but deeply of British Colonial administration. back here, if such be his wish. There are also hurled. Mr. Dixon therefore suggests that I am, Bir, your obedient servant, proof being 5 inch oregon with a layer of remarkable Address in reply to the Imperial meetting of the company be held in the month five or six other Colonial Governors who might these deep deposits should at some future time of December. The full report is held over,— accept the Governorship of the Straits, carry be systematically tested by drilling with careing as it does the High Commissionership felly selected apparatus.

#### THE HONGKONG CIVIL SERVICE.

SIR HENRY BLAKE'S DEFENCE

Sir Henry Blake contributes the following. etter to the Times, in reply to an article by Mr. Alleyne Ireland dealing with Hongkong in the series on Studies in Administration in the Tropics :---

Sir.—In The Times of September 14 appears the-third of a series of articles on Studies of Administration in the Tropics, by Mr. Alleyne Ireland, who was commissioned by the University of Chicago to visit all the Eastern Colonies and report upon the systems of administration under which the various Indo-Malayan people live-a work of very great importance and utility if carried out with unbiased intelligence.

The article in question is a report upon the administration of Hongkong, in which Colony he arrived supported by such recommendations se ensured his accommodation in a room in the already much congested Colonial offices and his access to official source of information. He remained in the Colony for four months, and the result is a paper so inaccurate, and giving so distorted a picture of the Civil servants of the Colony, that I must ask permission to correct some of his misapprehensions.

Having in the second paragraph acknowledged that the officials are not corrupt, that justice is honestly administered, and that life and property are as secure as they are in London, Mr. Ireland adds that :- A number of men possessed of high qualifications fail to be useful servants only because in Hongkong, as in some other places in the British Empire, it is considered the worst of bad form to be inteested in one's work.

As one who has administered the Governments of various Colonies for 19 years I may claim to speak with some authority on this subject. A more groundless statement has never been made by one assumed to write with a sense of responsibility. In my experience at home and abroad I have never known a body of men on the whole more faithfully devoted to their duties than are the European public officers engaged in the administrative work of the Colony. I was in England at the time of Mr. Ireland's visit, but I learned on my return that unfortunately between Mr. Ireland and some of the public officers with whom he came in contact there was a mutual lack of appreciation which may account for his conclusions.

But after all this is but a matter of opinion. Now for Mr. Ireland's facts, arrived at after four months' investigation. He cites two instances in which the interests of the Colony have been sacrificed to official dilatoriness ;--

"In 1894 a serious outbreak of bubonic plague occurred in Hongkong, and from that time onward the Colony has scarcely been free from it. Notwithstanding the serious nature of such a visitation, it was not until 1901 that the Government took the matter thoroughly in hand by calling for a report on the subject from Professor W. J. Simpson, and a Public Health and Buildings Ordinance was drafted as the outcome of Professor Simpson's report and of the advice of Mr. Osbert Chadwick, C.M.G., and of Dr. Francis Clark, medical officer of health, some eight years after the first outbreak

Firmmediately after the cessation of the outbreak in 1894 the Government resum: d 64 acres of insanitary private property at a cost of \$818,000, removing the houses and laying out the area at a further expenditure of \$108,000. In that year an ordinance was passed dealing with insanitary dwellings, and in 1899 a further ordinance, the Insanitary Properties Ordinance, was passed. The Public Health and Buildings Ordinance alluded to by Mr. Ireland was in the main a consolidating ordinance. Apart from the sums mentioned above, \$1,349,000 were spent in sanitation beween the advent of the pidemic in 1894 and 1902, the year in which Professor Simpson visited the Colony at my request, the large expenditure and the exertions of an ever-increasing sanitary staff being ineffectual to stay the annually recurring ravages of the epidemic. A further sum of \$712,000 has been expended since 1901, and the expenditure of the Smitary Department, which in 1893 stood at \$50,000, stands in this year's estimates at \$580,000.

Again:-"The other instance to which I refer is the water supply of the Colony. About 20 years ago Mr. Osbert Chadwick was called upon to make a report upon the water supply of Hongkong. He supplied the Government with a number of suggestions which were only carried out in part. .... After an interval of 20 years Mr. Chadwick had to be again called in to report once more upon the water supply of the Colony."

In 1882 Mr. Chadwick reported. In 1883 the great reservoir at Tytam was begun and completed in 1899 at a cost of \$,1257,000. Another reservoir at Wongneichong was also added, and a general distribution carried out not only on the lower levels but throughout the Peak district to an elevation of 1,800ft, while in Kowloon waterworks were also established. Between 1883 and 1900 the sum of \$2,131,000 was expended in waterworks alone, and in 1901 a scheme was entered upon for increasing the water supply of Kowloon estimated to cost \$835,000, of which \$200,000 has already been expended. I have Mr. Chadwick's report of April 10, 1902, before me . He recapitulates his recommendations made in 1882, which were adopted by Mr. Cooper, the then Director of Public Works, and in paragraph 55 he writes with reference to these recommendations :---The conclusions which I have arrived at may

be summarised as follows;—(a) The works recommended by Mr. Cooper as preently required have been carried out with good results. In pursuance of further recommendations made by Mr. Chadwick in his report of 1903 the construction of a very large additional reservoir has been determined upon and preliminary work has been begun. This large work will take some years to complete, during

Mr. Ireland speaks of the inadequate size of were built and the Supreme Court building cost of over \$1,300,000

The publication of Mr. Ireland's most misleading statements in the Times, means the some of which the future lot may be cast of

HENRY A. BLAKE, Governithnit House, Hongkong, October 38,

## THE NEW LAW COURTS

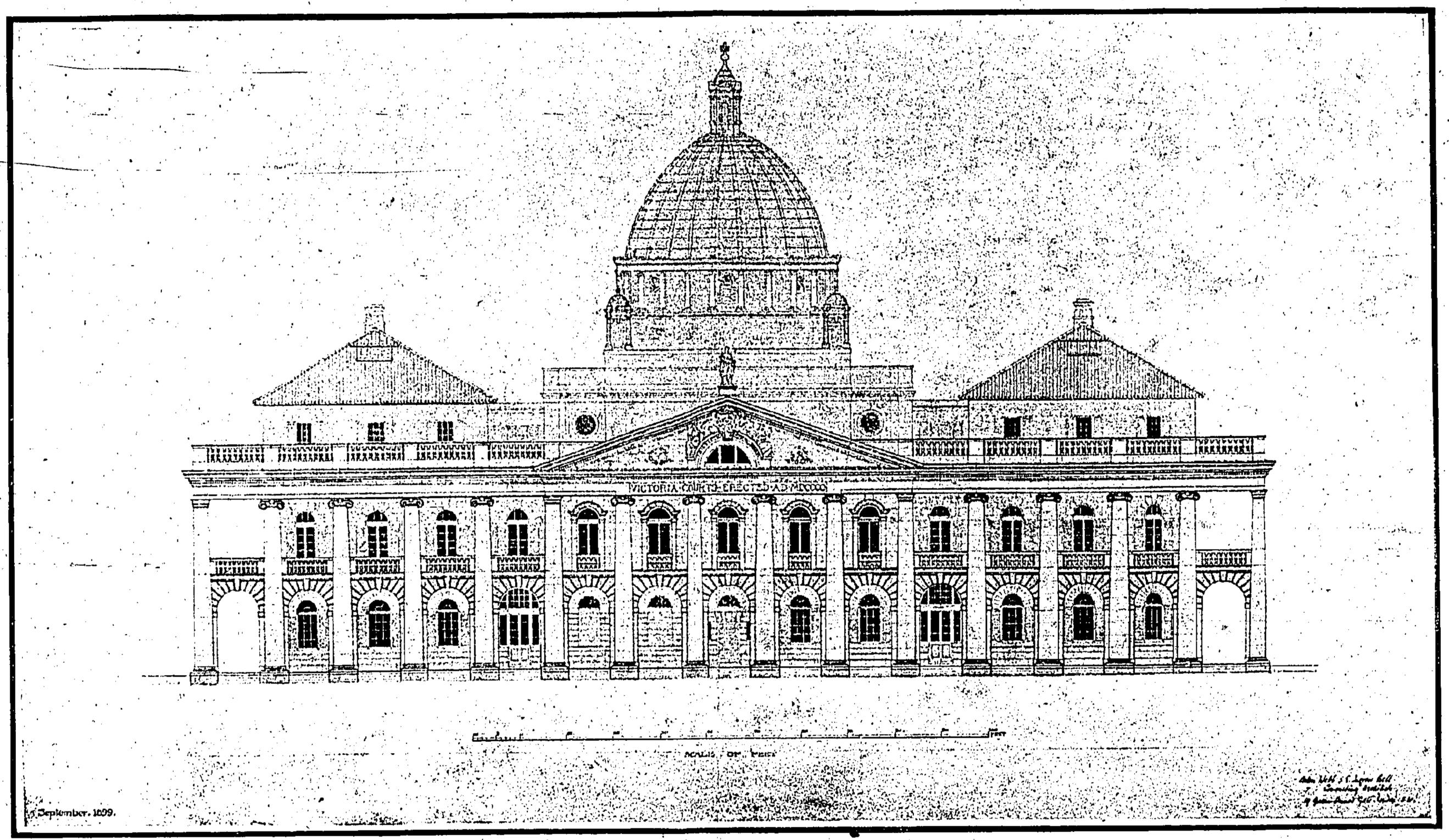


PHOTO BY C. W. CLARK

ICE HOUSE STREET, HONGKONG.

#### PROPOSED NEW BUILDINGS - WEST ELEVATION

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE BUILDING.

Since the laying of the foundation stone of the new Law Courts by Sir HENRY BLAKE on the 12th November last, there has been renewed activity on the vac int land. lying between the Queen's Statue and the City Hall, and the outline of the buildings can now be readily traced by means of the brick walls which are daily increasing in height. The building, consisting of the new Law Courts, Land Offices, etc., will, when completed, form a very valuable addition to the architecture of the city, and one of the finest erections in the Colony, the beauty and skill portrayed in the design being 'far in advance of anything to which we have been accustomed. ' The style that has been adopted is, as might be expected, purely classic in feeling, following the English school and with details of a Greek character. The site, lies between Des Voeux Road and Chater Road, and is adjacent to the Cricket Ground on the west side. The designs of the buildings were prepared by Messrs, Aston Webb, R.A., and E. Ingress Bell, F.R.I.B.A., of 19, Queen Anne's Gate, London, the Consulting Architects to the Government of Great Britain, and the work is being carried out under the supervision of Mr. H. A. FISHER, A.R.I.B.A., of the Public Works Department, Hongkong.

The ground floor of the structure will be occupied by various offices for the officials of the Courts, including spacious apartments set aside has Land Offices, and separate rooms for the Registrar, the Deputy Registrar and their respective clerks, and also for the Bailiffs. On this floor also is a Prisoners' Receiving Room with a separate entrance, and cells in connection, while special staircases leading to the docks of the large and small Courts on the floor above will be provided. There are two large entrances for the general public, both on the west side of the building, and these communicate with the several offices by means of spacious corridors. Access for the public to the first floor is provided by two wide staircases, and on the east side is an entrance for the Registrar and other officials, and a separate doorway for the use of the Judges.

A lift, which will be worked by electrical power, will be used in addition to a private staircase, for the convenience of the Judges and other officials who may be engaged on the upper floors. The official portions of the building throughout are carefully kept distinct from those to which the general public have access.

On the ground floor ample accommodation is also provided for

There is a small basement in which are situated the furnaces, boilers, etc. for the heating of the building, which will be on a hot water system at low pressure, with radiators in all rooms and corridors. The system is arranged in four separate sections in order that only such portions of the building as are necessary need he warmed at any one time.

The large Court is placed in the centre of the first floor and is surrounded by the smaller rooms and corridors, so that no sound from outside the building may penetrate while the Court is sitting. This is a large and lofty apartment lighted by means of four large semicircular windows placed high up, each being twenty-eight feet in diameter, and four small circular windows. Ample space is provided for members of the legal professions, for the jury, witnesses, reporters, &c., as well as the usual accommodation for the Judge and prisoners, and a considerable area is also reserved for the use of the public.

There will be four pairs of massive granite columns ranged along the walls supporting the large dome above, and these will add much to the handsome and imposing appearance of the Court. The height of this chamber, from the floor to the ceiling of the dome, will be forty-eight feet.

There is a smaller and commodious Court on this floor on the north side of the large: Court, from which it is separated by a wide corridor, and is well lighted by casement windows opening on to the colonnade. This is for the use of the Puisne Judge.

The south end of the same floor is occupied by a spacious Library for the use of the Judges and officials, which is also in communication with the colonnade. The Library is surrounded by a wide overhanging gallery.

On the same level is a large number of rooms grouped around the Central Court, and set apart for the use of counsel and solicitors, while waiting rooms for witnesses and consultation rooms for the convenience of litigants are also provided in addition to separate retiring rooms for each of the Judges, besides the Jury room, and efficient lavatory accommodation is provided throughout.

The second floor, reserved for officials of the Court, is gained by a continuation of the officials' staircase from the ground floor, and by the lift. Here are situated large offices for the accommodation of the Attorney General, the Crown Solicitor, and their respective staff of clerks, and a considerable space is set apart for the storage of books, etc.

The internal walls are to be built of red bricks, while the main piers supporting the dome and some other portions will be of granite. The external walls are to be faced in



HON. W. CHATHAM, M.I.C.E.,

Director of Public Works,

Hongkong.

finely punched white granite, all of which is being carefully selected for the purpose. The whole building will be of fireproof construction, and has been designed with a view to efficiently withstanding the ravages of white ants. The floors throughout are formed in concrete and steel, all the metal being well protected by casings of concrete and ashestos plaster. The Small Court and Library will be covered with red tile roofs; the smaller rooms and corridors

with concrete flats, and over the centre of the building a large dome of some forty feet span is eleverly placed on four massive granite piers. These are connected by heavy arches of brickwork in cement from which springs the inner dome, forming the ceiling of the large Court. Above this again rises the drum of the external dome, consisting of granite faced walls supported on steel framing and surrounded by detached columns. From the base of the drum eight steel trusses spring, supporting the stone lantern at the top, and which are united on their outer surface with steel framing filled in with concrete, and covered externally with cast granolithic slabs, forming the outer surface of the doine.

Internally, the walls of the various rooms will be finished in plaster, and there will be glazed tile dados to all lavatories and corridors. The ceilings will be ornamented in plaster, which will be formed with asbestos where necessary for protection from fire. The floors throughout, except to lavatories, will be finished with hardwood blocks laid in preservative composition, and the lavatories are to be paved with ornamental tiling. The staircases will all be constructed in granite, with ornamental wrought iron balusters and polished wood handrails. The joinery throughout is to be in teak, and has all been specially designed for the building.

The whole of the interior of the building will be amply lighted by means of electric glow lamps, and great attention has been given to the warming and ventilation of each of the several apartments.

The principal elevation of the structure is to face towards the west, and will consist of a single Ionic order some forty-five feet in height, forming fifteen bays with attached columns and square anglepiers. The piers are interconnected by semicircular arches supporting the floors of the collonade above with ornamental balustrades and moulded copings, all in granite. Between the piers and the mainwalls on the ground floor is a wide columnade entirely surrounding the building except for a small portion on the east side. This colonnade is spanned by a series of semi-circular arches which support the walls and floors above. The upper colonnade runs round the greater part of the first floor, above which is a balcony to the second floor, access to both being afforded by folding casement doors. The colonnades will be finished with finely punched granite walls and arches, and tesselated pavements. The centre portion of the west elevation is surmounted by a pediment containing one semicircular opening, around which are grouped the Royal arms, and the whole is crowned by a statue of Justice, standing nine feet high. Behind this pediment rises the square base of the central dome, which is terminated at each angle by a graceful pinnacle built of granite. From this base the drum of the dome ascends, consisting of a circular Doric order, the intercolumnar spaces being pierced with windows. Above this rises the graceful outline of the dome, the whole being surmounted by a handsome granite lantern, terminating, at a height of over one hundred and thirty feet from the ground, in a boldly carved Tudor crown.

The elevation on the north, south and east sides will be similar in character to that on the west, but without the pediment, each façade being finished with a parapet wall and granite balustrade.

The foundation stone, a fine block of Chinese granite, which was laid by H. E. Sir H. A. BLAKE last month, bears the following inscription in guilt letters:—

on the 12th November, 1903, by

His Excellency
SIR HENRY ARTHUR BLAKE, G.C.M.G.,
Governor of Hongkong.

WILIAM CHATHAM, M. Inst. C.E.,
Director of Public Works.

ASTON WEBB, R.A.,
E. INGRESS BELL, FRILBIA.,

Architects.

CHAN A TONG,

JUDGMENT FOR \$28,800

AGAINST A SHIPBUILDER

ZJudgment in the case in which Tso Cheung Shi, a widow, residing at 162 Queen's Road West, suing as executrix of Tsoi Heung Po, deceased, proceeded against To Shing, a Lander, of 22 Peel Street, to recover the sum of \$28,000 money received, and \$12,000 damages, was given by the Chief Justice (Sir W. M. Goodman) at the Supreme Court on 19th inst.

The Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, of Messrs. Dennys and Bowley, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. C. E. H. Beavis, of Wilkinson and Grist, represented the

defendant. His Lordship said:—This is an action brought by the executrix of the late Tsoi Heung Po against a shipbuilder named To Shing, claiming damages for the non-delivery of a small steam vessel, one of two which he had contracted to deliver to Tsoi. The damages claimed amount to \$40,800, namely \$28,000, being the amount paid by Isoi to To Shing between certain dates on account of the vessel \$12,000 representing the difference between \$28,000 paid and \$40,000 for which, it is alleged, the vessel, if delivered according to contract, could have been sold by Tsoi, and \$800 representing certain materials or fittings, not included in the specification, paid for by Tsoi and used in the steam vessel, the value of which it is alleged that Tsoi lost because the vessel was not delivered to him but to someone else. It seems that, one, Henry Piry, trading as H. Piry and Company, had acquired certain concessions from the French authorities. at Kwong Chow Wan with regard to opium and other commodities, and wished to raise the necessary capital to utilize and develope those concessions, and to procure suitable steam vessels for purposes connected therewith Accordingly, he associated with himse three Chinese who could provide some, at Teast, of the money required, namely Chan Tuk Shang, Tse Lee Ching and Tsoi Heung Po, whom I will allude to as Tsoi. Their relations were not at first regulated by any partnership agreement, and when Simon Daniel Piry, the brother of Henry Piry, came to Hongkong, from Shanghai, about June, 1951, to look after matters, presumably in the interests of Henry, who was, most of the time away, managing matters at Kwong Chow Wan, he suggested the necessity of having something in writing to show the relations of the parties to each other in business. Accordingly, three documents were signed by H. Piry and Company—meaning, I presume, H. Piry—and by Chan, Tse and Tsoi (whose executrix is bringing this action). They are dated, 16th July, 1901. quote from the translations. The first begins by reciting as follows: "Now we have invited our companions to establish the Kwong Chow Wan Shipping Company, Limited, and the Kwong Chow Wan, Raw and Prepared Opium Company, Limited." Then certain regulations are set out. The first was as follows," Partners of this Company have not hitherto made any agreement with Piry and Company. Now this agreement is made as real proof. The name of Piry and Company, or Piry, shall be used in doing all business and building steamships. The second reads as follows: "All the above mentioned business carried on by this Company at Canton, Hongkong and Chek Hom shall be handed to Piry and Co. to manage and carry on, on their behalf. The managers of Piry and Company are Chan Yuk Shang and Piry." Various other regulations followed. To read this one would suppose it was contemplated to join two limited companies under the Companies Ordinances, rather than partnership, but Mr. Simon Piry deposed that this was not so. The other two agreements are, respectively, the Regulations of the Kwong Chow Wan Shipping Company, Limited, (as it is called), and of the Kwong Chow Wan Opium Company, Limited. The first four clauses of the Shipping Company's agreement are as follows:-"1. This Company has decided to make an agreement, with regulations, with Piry & Co. 2. This Company shall carry on the shipping and saltpetre and sulphur business in Canton, Hongkong and Kwong Chow Wan. 3. It is proposed that a capital of \$50,000 shall be subscribed for this Company," (Shares are then set out). "4. All the capitals subscribed have been paid up in full." As regards the Opium Company, the first article stated that, This Company has decided to make an agreement with Piry & Co., with regulations to do the Kwong Chow Wan Raw and Prepared Opium (business) and exporting prepared opium. The second article provided for a capital of \$120,000, of which Piry was to hold \$10,000 and the three Chinese \$110,000 shares between them; and the third article stated that all the capitals subscribed had been paid up in full. Now, these documents are by no means a satisfactory substitute for a proper partnership agreement constituting Henry Piry, Chan, Tse, and Tsoi, partners in an ordinary firm, although the relationship between them has been assumed by the defendant all through the case to be that they were, all four, simply members of the firm of Piry and Co. But, assuming, as I will, 'that some sort of partnership existed, it is clear from the evidence that when those three agreements were signed not only had all the \$50,000 capital of the shipping business been consumed, but that the shipping company or business had already had to borrow some \$70,000 from the \$120,000 capital, or supposed capital, of the Opium Company. seems clear, therefore, that the Shipping Company was not in a position to pay for extra steamers, unless fresh capital was introduced. This was in or about July, 1901. Now, at that time, the defendant was building two steam vessels which were originally intended to be used in connection with the carriage of opium wand-freight, and in the careless, unbusinesslike way in which matters seem to have been conducted, no proper written contract for such building had been made. It the builder. It, however, appears that the two | and Li Yuk. ships were ordered verbally on 10th Jebruary, 1901 and 7th April, 1901, respectively, and that | vening the meeting. the first was to cost \$48,000, and the other \$30,000, and that there were written Chinese to be completed in 1901. The shipbuilder had, August, 1900, whose assets and liabilities we

and, according to the evidence of Mr. Dennys

interpreter, [Yam Kwan Un, asked Mr. Dennys

name. Next day, the defendant went again to

they arranged to have the agreement made in the plant being constantly wet, the washing MACAO'S HOSPITALITY TO THE Tsui's name, and not in Piry's. The original | machines in particular soon deteriorating. tenders with the specifications were addressed | From the formation of our predecessor we and headed 'To Un Chan Yuk hang.' Ac- have had innumerable difficulties to contend cordingly, on October 9 a formul agreement | with, one of the principal being accomwas drawn out putting Tsoi in Chan's shoes, | modation, the present building being badly as it were, reciting the previous payments of \$49,000 and stipulating quite simply and clearly, that To Shing, (the defendant) would complete the two ships and hand them over to Tsoi, and that Tsoi would pay the balance of \$ 9,000 to the defendant in due our requirements during the one or two hours course. This agreement was interpreted to it was supposed to be turned on in the town the defendant and the interpreter deposed that | mains, but, fortunately, after purchasing for they all appeared to understand it, and the | some little time from water boats, we struck a defenda t acknowledged in writing, at the end | good flow of water in the wells sunk in our of the agreement, witnessed by Mr. Dennys, | compound. Another trouble was and continues the receipt of \$15,000 on account of the \$29,000. I to be, though in a lessened degree, the unreathe agreement and its contents perfectly well | patrons for loss or damage, which if entertainwhen he and Tsoi and Chan signed it. Mr. | ed would probably have caused the closing of Simon Piry knew of the agreement very soon | the works. Some people seem to have an afterwards and, although holding a Power of lidea that because we are a Company nothing Attorney from his brother, Henry, he says he | should go wrong, forgetful or indifferent to the did not like it, yet he made no formal objection | fact that we have to depend on the native to it. On May 14, 1902, the defendant signed a receipt for \$12,000 more from Tsoi making, and his work closely supervised to ensure with the previous \$15,000, altogether \$27,000 received on account of the final \$29,000 from Tsoi. The receipt was witnessed by Mr. Dennys and a memorandum in his writing was added and signed by Tsoi and the defendant as follows:— It is hereby agreed between the parties hereto that the second steamer referred to inthe above mentioned agreement shall be completed and ready for her trial trip within three months from this date, and that \$2,000, the balance of the above mentioned sum of \$29,000, shall be paid by Tsoi to To Shing upon the said second steamer satisfactorily completing her trial trip, and that all the goods purchased by the said To Shing to be used on board the steamer it the pecuniary sympathy of the native domesalready delivered to the said Tsoi under the I tic, and the fact that we have been able to above agreement, and the extra work done | carry on makes it evident that the cleanliness to the said completed steamer under the said of our methods and the punctuality, of our agreement have been paid for by the said | delivery is appreciated, and that our patrons Tsoi prior to this date-May 14, 1902." no longer being doubtful as to where their The agreement was made at the office of a clothes have been laundried, or have been lying thoroughly respectable solicitor, and I do not I for a week or more, are more inclined to look believe that the defendant was in any way over our shortcomings. The accounts have misled. This agreement or memorandum been kept back until now, the money being extended the original time for completing the required to meet monthly expenses, and it second steamer ready for her trial trip to being safer to see how the current year 'August 14, 1902. The first steamer was duly opened before paying the dividend which delivered. All the defendant had to do was to we now recommend. We are glad to say comply with the terms of this contract. Tsoi | that our earnings up to the present comdied on August 29, 1902, and on November 22, pare favourably with the same period last 1902 probate of his will was granted to the year, and with an increase in our already plaintiff. She, through her solicitors, wrote in large ship work, this year should shew better due course requiring the defendant to carry results. Before moving the adoption of the out his contract and, on January 19, 1903, report and accounts I shall be pleased to gave notice that unless the steamer was ready for delivery, after satisfactory trials tions, I beg to propose that the report and acwithin one calendar month from that date, the plaintiff would treat the contract as broken by the defendant and would sue for damages. Instead of carrying out his contract, the defendant, who had other claims for other matters against Piry and Co., after trying to get these claims settled by Tsoi's executrix and others, finally handed over the steamer to Simon Piry, about the end of January 1903, who sold it to Edwards and others for \$28,000. Edwards was interested in a company of which Smon Piry was manager. Simon Piry deposed that out of the \$28,000 he paid to the defendant \$10,000, money he alleges to have been due to the l defendant from Piry and Co., and that he remitted \$12,000 for a payment in connection with the Opium Farm, and that he sent most of the balance of \$6,000 to his brother, Henry Piry, who had been engaged in litigation with Tsoi and others at Kwang Chow Wan. In doing this he, in no way, consulted with fise or Chan or Tsoi. He was rather furnishing his brother with money to fight them. He may have been acting in his brother's interest, but he was clearly not acting for either Tse. Chan or Tsoi. Indeed, whatever partnership or association had existed between those persons and Henry Piry, had been dissolved and a liquidation ordered by a French Court in August 1902, and the property at Kwan Chow Wan and Canton had been seized and an advertisement inserted in the Daily Press by the French Consul at Canton dated September 25 1902, announcing that iquidation had been ordered. It is clear, herefore, that the defendant broke his contract and that Tsoi or his estate lost thereby the \$27,000 he paid under the agreement of October 9, 1901, and the \$800 he had expended on certain iron work used in the vessel As regards the item of profit he would have made by selling the vessel at a higher price. it was stated by Tai Chip Sun that he got an offer on behalf of Tsoi about the end of June or early in July, 1902, from a man named Lum, a Fokienese, to buy this second ship when completed for \$40,000, if it was finished within two months from that time. But in view of the later letters requiring the ship to be finished ready for delivery within one month from January 19th, 1903, and, looking at the whole circumstances of the case, I do not feel I ought

The Court then adjourned sine dit.

plaintiff for \$28,800 with costs.

STEAM LAUNDRY CO., LTD.

to give damages under this head. The plaintiff

worth at least \$30,000, on payment of \$2,000

suit his own purposes and to enforce payment

of other claims broke his contract and handed

that ship over to Simon Piry or Edwards,

The first annual meeting of the shareholders in the Steam Laundry Company, Limited, was held on Monday afternoon at the Works, the registered office of the Company, Causeway Bay, next door to Kennedy's Stables.

Mr. W. Hutton Potts, the company's chairman, presided, and there were also present did not appear at what dates payments on Messrs. D. E. Brown (Director), C. Mooney account of such building were to be made to [(Secretary), F. G. Allen (Manager), Mak Fuk

The Secretary having read the notice con-

The Chairman said: - With your concurrence, I propose to dispense with the reading of the tenders and specifications, and that the de- report of the Board and the statement of fendant in those tenders agreed to complete accounts, which have been in your possession the first steamer within nine months from 10th for several days. As you are aware, this com-February 1901, and the second, within eight pany is the successor to the Hongkong Steam months from 7th April 1901. Thus both were | Laundry Company, Limited, registered in by about August, 1901, received some \$49,000, took over on the 1st June, 1902, the shareon account, principally from Chan, but could holders in the old company receiving not complete without further payments, and in exchange for the ten dollar share H. Piry and Co. had no funds available. Henry one of five dollars in this company, Piry was away down South. He left by the and those of us who were members of beginning of August, 1901, and was away over the old company have had, like many other THE Sin Wan Pao is informed by the same two years. Tse and Chan would not find fur | shareholders in local industries, to pay for our | authority that the French Minister at Peking got the ships so long as he was paid for them, (\$3,534.47) this may seem large for one year's went to Mr. Dennys' office on October 7, 1901, work, but you must remember that work has been carried on continuously since September, 1900, and it was only during the period covered to have the written contract with regard to the by the Account now before you that the machibuilding of the two steamers made out in Tsoi's nery began to wear out, and repairs and renewals became necessary, though we believe

designed and much too small, with no ground for drying in the open. The water s pply was also a cause of great inconvenlience and anxiety, it being impossible during the last two winters to obtain sufficient for find, as a fact, that the defendant understood | sonable claims put forward by some of our workman who has to be educated to our system his natural tendency to fold up without remark a damaged or soiled article which is in many cases returned in a condition that brings discredit on the Laundry, it being quite impossible for the sorters to open up and inspect every article out of a daily washing of four or five thousand pieces. It has only been through constant worry and persistent effort that the above mentioned troubles have been partly overcome and we are able to show the present results. We can congratulate ourselves that ours is, as far as we are aware, the only Steam Laundry in the East that has survived native opposition, which always carries with answer any questions. There being no quesco ints as presented be passed.

Mr. D. E. Brown seconded, and the motion was unanimously carried. On the proposal of Mr. Mooney, seconded by

Mr. Allen, Mr. Brown, the retiring director, was The re-election of Mr. A. O'D. Gourdin as auditor of the company was agreed to, on the

proposal of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Brown. The Chairman then intimated that that was

all the business before the meeting and that dividend warrants would be sent out to shareholders the next day.

CHINESE LABOUR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

At a well-attended special meeting of the Rhodesia Chamber of Mines it was resolved unanimously to request the Administrator to give effect immediately to the Immigration Ordinance, and to name China as one of the countries from which unskilled mine labour might be imported. The Buluwayo Chamber of Commerce, the Salisbury Chamber of Mines. and the Matabeleland Landowners and Farmers Association have passed similar resolutions.

In a letter on the subject of Chinese labour

'Sigma" in the Westminster Gazette writes:— There is one important aspect of the proposed importation of Chinese coolies into South Africa for work in the mines which does not so far seem to have received adequate attention. It is apparently taken for granted by the mine-owners and their supporters in the Press that there will be no difficulty in obtaining an unlimited supply of coolies; and that any opposition on the part of the Chinese Government can easily be got over by squaring the local officials. There are, however, one or two considerations which render this method of procedure in the present case more than a little embarrassing. It is, I suppose, admitted that the intervention of the Imperial Government will be necessary in the first instance to obtain the sanction of the Chinese authorities before any coolies will be allowed to embark: and accordingly the task of explaining to the Chivese officials the arrangements under which these men will come on their arrival in South was entitled to delivery of a ship costing and Africa will devolve on H.M.'s Consuls at the Treaty Ports concerned. If effect is to be given to the ideas of the mine-owners, these after satisfactory trial trip. The defendant to arrangements are to be of a rather unusual type. We are told that special legislation is to be passed with a view to preventing a intercourse between the coolies and the rest of whereupon it was promptly taken out of the the population; and to ensure this, when their urisdiction of this Court. The plaintiff also work is over they are to be rigorously confined lost the \$800 he paid for iron work to be used in the mining compounds. And so during the on the ship and which was used for that purwhole period of their stay in this British pose. In the result I give judgment for the Colony these unfortunate men are to be for cibly deprived of their liberty, and on the com pletion of their contracts compulsorily shipped back to China. It is true that they are to be known officially as "Indentured labourers, not slaves; but it will require a good deal o ingenuity as well as a competent knowledge of the language to make the Chinese officials understand the difference. If, in addition to this, our Consuls are required to connive at the bribery—for that, I suppose, is the meaning of "squaring"—of these same officials by the agents of the mine-owners, a state of affairs will arise which will not be favourible to the credit of either the Consular Service or the British name. As regards the attitude of the. Chinese authorities to this new departure, the report of Mr. Ross Skinner, the delegate of the mine-owners who recently visited China, is apparently silent; but it is already known that the best Chinese officials are opposed to the re-opening of this traffic, of which they have

> Viceroy. This is a question gravely affecting the character of our policy in the Far East. Is it too much to expect that Lord Lansdowne will interfere to guard it from degradation?

> had very painful experiences in the past, and

that representations to this effect have recently

been sent up to Pekin by at least one provincial

to pacify the Kwangsi rebels, France could not France could see no way of receiving any comtherefore she was requested to use her troops with which they are instructed. in co-operation with those of China to exterminate the rebels of Kwangsi at an early date, Mr. Dennys' office with Tsoi and Chan and they will always be a large item, so much of ctc., etc. The Waiwupu's reply is not known.

HONGKONG PRESS.

AN APPEAL TO BRITISH CHARITY.

The majority of residents in Hongkong have, on some occasion, been able to spare a few hours, from the rushing, high-pressure existence of life's struggle in our big senport, to visit the old-time city of Macao. Such of them as are interested in the history of early European enterprise in China must certainly have returned to our noisy, crowded, busy streets while still under impression of the subtle charm and romantic glamour which penetrates the mind of visitors to this ancient outpost of Portugal's formerly magnificent colonial empire. It the latent charm of Macao is appreciable to the casual tripper, whose impressions are gathered from a superficial acquaintance with this picturesque colony, how much more vivid and delightful are the emotions experienced by those who have been able to peep into the inner life of this old-world corner of a continent when chaperoned by those in authority, who alone can show what is going on the other side of the wall. Such was the enviable lot of the members of the Hongkong Press who responded to the invitation of Mr. A. J. Basto, Junior, the Honorary Secretary of the Charity Fête, now organising in the Portuguese colony. THE BANQUET.

The day's experience, the souvenir of which will be an abiding one, began at the hospitable mansion of Mr. A. J. Basto, Senior, where a luncheon—an epicurean banquet worthy of the appreciation of a Brillet-Savarin-was offered to the members of the Administrative Council of the Colony and the representative brethren of the pen. - Were-present:-His Lordship Paulino d'Agevedo e Castro, Bishop of Macao, who is at present Administering the Government, Dr. Albano de Magalhaes, Chief Justice of the Colony, Dr. Luiz Forte, the Attorney General and Colonial Secretary pro tem. Mr. W. Noyes-Morehouse, Commissioner of Customs at Lappa, the Rev. Father Nunes, private secretary to the Bishop, Messrs. A. J. Basto, Senior, A. J. Hasto, Junior, and others. At the end of the repast, numerous cordial toasts were drunk; the first to lift his glass being the jovial host, Mr. A. J. Basto who, addressing his guests in the purest of French, drank to their health and well-being. His Lordship the Bishop, in a few, well-chosen words, expressed his grateful appreciation of the aid received by local charities from the Hongkong Press and, after some flattering remarks anent the power and impartiality of British newspapers, the world over, drank to the health and success of the fraternity. Mr. P. W. Sergeant, of the Hongkong Daily Press, eloquently voiced the thanks of his conficres and, on their behalf, reciprocated the good wishes expressed by the different speakers. The assembled guests then rose and visited an exhibition of toys and other articles to be disposed of at the coming Bazzar, at which were present several of the charming lady stall-holders who are to assist at the fete.

On an adjoining tennis-court, a photograph was then taken of a group, composed of His Lordship the Bishop surrounded by the members of the Council, the pressmen and guests; after which all present proceeded, under the direction of the kindly Prelate, to visit several of the convents, schools and charitable institu-

tions of the City.

THROUGH OLD MACAO. Up hill and down—through narrow, stonepaved streets lined with tall, silent houses. barred and recessed windows show walls several feet in thickness, and whose painted façades of the Lusso-Moorish style, pillared portals, ornamented with stuccowork, remind one of Lisbon or Corunna—on goes the procession of rickshas. As we pass some of the larger buildings, surrounded by massive walls of more than normal height. there reaches the ear, through the rattling din of the wheels upon the pavement the tinkle of a chapel bell, or snatches of an ave or pater sang by distant voices. The streets now narrow so that it looks as if it will be impossible to proceed, then suddenly they open out again and a largo is traversed, upon which gives the portico of some important edifie. Smart stordy little soldiers, clad in a sky-blue uniform stand to attention, and respectfully salute, as soon as the sedan chair of the Bishop comes into their line of vision. It wanted but little imagination to appreciate the remantic charm of this perigrination through the ancient and tortuous arteries of the city, and had one encountered, on turning an abrupt corner in a narrow travessa, a cavalheiro, in the glories of a steel marion and buff jerkin, with a long Toledo beating against his heels, would have been but an appropriate adjunct to the vista and would hardly have excited

THE COLLEGE OF SANTA ROSA DE LIMA. Now we stop before the open portals of a convent and alight preceded by the Prelate the visitors ascend a magnificent flight of stone steps and are in the play-ground of the girl: college. The Mother Superior comes forward and greets the Bishop. The sisters, who are the teachers of the young ladies who come here to be educated, are then presented to us. They like the head of the establishment, are clad in a picturesque costume of white flannel which is undoubtedly becoming. Their features are wreathed in smiles of welcome, not unattended with a touch of satisfaction a being able to show the strangers over the admirable institution, which, by its spick and span condition and the evident healthy cheerfulness of the young inmates under their care, gives every proof of its admirable organisation. Time is short, therefore we have to hurry through dormitories, class-rooms, refactory, gymnasium. A play-ground and tennis-court are attached to the college. The education given is altogether modern and the charges are very low, \$12 a month beingthe maximum for boarders. Young ladies of good Portuguese families receive their education here, and, as we pass through the joyous groups of children, all anxious to salute the good Bishop, our host bends over his little daughter and embraces her. There are six sisters in the establishment, who are respectively English, French, Italian and Portuguese nationality. There are 67 girl-students in the college, twenty of whom are boarders. The building is a former monastry, over 200 years old. In places the walls are six feet thick, the chambers are large and well ventilated, one immense class room, on the first story, being nearly fifty yards long by ten broad.

INSTITUTION UNDER THE CANOSSIAN

Our procession is again en roule, this time to visit the different institutions under the care of the Canossian Sisters. We first come to the Benevolent Home, founded in 1877, where Portuguese and Chinese girls, of poor parents, ther capital for these two ships and, eventually, experience by the loss of half of our capital; has notified the Waiwupu that the Kwangsi are received and educated. Some of them are Tsoi agreed to do so, but to protect himself and under these circumstances we are the more insurgents had been repeatedly crossing into taught a trade, others go into orders, and again, wanted them handed over to him by the builder pleased that we are now in a position to recom- Annam, and France had spent much labour others are sent into the missions in the interior when finished. This being the state of things, mend a dividend of 8%, or 4% on our original and much money in defending the frontier for of China to Christianise the natives. The Portuthe defendant, in my opinion, not caring who investment. With regard to repairs and renewals over a year. Now as long as China was unable guese Government has sent many poor children into the Home. The establishment, which was withdraw her garrisons on the borders and as visited throughout, was scrupulously clean and well appointed. Samples of the work executed pensation for the money and labour spent, by the little inmates bear witness to the skill THE HOLY INFANCY.

This establishment is similar in its object to It was present this Reply," the French Convent in Hongkong,

opened in 1885 and, since its inauguration, over 10,300 abandoned infants have been taken in. It includes an asylum for the aged and blind and a retreat for reformed Magdelenes. It would take too much of our space to dwell upon the good work done here, suffice to say that the kind, motherly attention bestowed by the good sisters on the hundreds of abandoned. suffering little humans is altogether beyond praise. A visit must be paid to the institution to fully real so the splendid self-abnegation of the devoted wonigh who toil and strive to alleviate the misery and pain of the children of the Chinese poor.

PERSERVERANCE COLLEGIL

This was opened on the 22nd of November

last, and is another of the several benevolent institutions founded by His Lordship the Bishop, who has, though yet barely six months in the Colony, done inestimable good to the poorer classes of the big flock under his care. This establishment offers employment for girls over eighteen who leave the Benevolent Home and are desirous of earning an honest livelihood. It is in the charge of the Franciscan Sisters of the Order of Mary. At the end of the third quarter of the present year the institution was housing and feeding 364 persons in all, 70 of whom were children. The expenditure for the quarter was \$4,493.91, and the receipts \$3,255.75, leaving a deficit of \$1,238 16. It is to clear this deficit that a fête and bazaar are to be given in the Public Gardens at Macao, on the 26th and 27th inst. A good entertainment will be provided, and charitably disposed persons from Hongkong can be assured of passing an enjoyable holiday in the city of Camoes. It was late in the evening when the inspection terminated and the excellent Prelate's ide good-bye to the guests he had so courteously and untiringly piloted; and it was not without emotion that each in turn expressed his thanks and humble appreciation of Ilis Lordship's untiring zeal in the beautiful work of mercy he has so nobly undertaken. Monsignor Paulino d'Azevedo e Castro is

termination; therefore the poor and suffering members of his flock can look forwar, with real happiness, to many years of spiritual security and well-being under the benevolent care of this kindly and generous prelate. THE JAPANESE DIET.

OPENING CEREMONY.

comparatively young and his features bear

the unmistakable stamp of energy and de-

(From the " Japan Times.") The opening ceremony of the Nineteenth Session of the Imperial Diet was conducted on the 10th inst. by H. M. the Emperor in person. Accompanied by T. H. Prince Fushimi and Kuni and the usual suite, His Majesty proceeded to the Parliamentary Buildings at 10.30 a.m. and was welcomed by the Presidents and Vice-Presidents of the House and escorted to the hall of the House of Peers by the Ministers of State and others. Ascending the dais, the Emperor then read the Address from the

IMPERIAL SPEECH. "Present at the opening ceremony of the Imperial Diet, we hereby make the following announcement to each and every Member of

the House of Peers and the House of Repre-"It gives us profound joy to find the relations of our Empire with treaty Powers more intimate and friendly than ever. As to the important international negotiation now pending for the maintenance of peace in the Far East and the

preservation of the Empire's rights and interests, our Ministers of State are under our instructions to conduct those negotiations with care and circumspection. "We have caused our Ministers of State to adopt a definite financial programme and ordered them to submit to the Diet the Budget for the thirty-seventh fiscal year together

with the various drafts of laws. We trust that you will gratify our wishes, discharging your legislative duties in a spirit of harmony and with mature deliberation. All the members of the Diet then made a deep obeisance and the Emperor and his suite immediately returned to the Imperial Palace. '

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. The House met at 11.30 a.m. to discuss its Reply to the Throne. Mr. Kono, the Speaker, announced that he was about to present the Reply, which he had drawn up, and, on the members rising, proceeded to read the same.

REPLY TO THE IMPERIAL SPEECH. "May it please Your August Majesty!

"Your Imperial Majesty's loyal subjects in the House of Representatives humbly beg to express their deep gratitude to Your Majesty for Your Majesty's condescension in honouring the opening of the Nineteenth Session of the Imperial Diet with Your Imperial presence and favouring them with a gracious Speech. "It is a source of boundless uneasiness and

fear to Your Majesty's humble subjects that, at this unique period of national prosperity and power, the Ministers of State should fail\_to rise to the requirements of the time, and that they should at home waste their energy in temporizing and fail abroad to take advantage of opportunities. It is the humble prayer of Your Majesty's loyal subjects that Your Majesty may graciously deign to bestow Imperial notice on this matter. It is the earnest ambition of Your Majesty's humble subjects to discharge their legislative duties in such a careful and deliberate manner as to meet with Imperial approval and at the same time deserve the trust reposed in them by the people.

"The above is submitted to the Throne in all humility by Your Majesty's humble subject. Hironaka Kono, President of the House of Representatives. The House passed it amid applause, and

authorised the President to present it to the INTERPELLATION REGARDING DIPLOMATIC

NEGOTIATION. -The first interpellation during the present session was introduced in the House of Representatives by Mr. Machizuki on Thursday. I related to the pending diplomatic negotiations

and ran as follows :-"That the fact of the Russo-Japanese negotiations regarding the situation not having yet arrived at any satisfactory conclusion after a delay lasting for the past several months, is not other countries which find it necessary to only a source of great regret to the nation, but threatens to endanger the peace of the Far

"What are the Government's views on this question, and what progress have the negotiations so far made?" HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met: at 9.30 a.m., 11th inst. and Prince Tokugawa, the President, read the Reply to the Imperial Address, which he had drawn up at the request of the Chairman of the

THE REPLY TO THE THRONE. "May it please Your August Majesty!

"Your Imperial Majesty's subjects in the House of Peers humbly submit this Reply to Your Majesty. In opening the Ninteenth Session of the Imperial Diet, Your Majesty was pleased to address to us a gracious speech. We, your humble subjects. will in obedience to Your Majesty's instructions, endeavour to discharge our legislative functions with careful deliberation carrying out of the Imperia

"With profound respect

There was profound silence for a moment, and Viscount Tani requested the President to read the Reply once more. The President complied, and the Reply was then passed upanimously.

The House forthwith proceeded to elect a Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House, Viscount Tani gaining 187 votes, out of 200. The election of the Standing Committees having taken place, Marquis Kuroda moved that a letter of thanks be presented to Prince Konoye, former President of the House, for his meritorious services while incumbent of that post for the past seven years. The motion was adopted, and Marquis Kuroda's draft of the letter was approved of by the House.

Before the extraordinary Reply to- the Throne was presented to the Emperor, the House of Representatives was dissolved on the 11th instant by virtue of an Imperial Rescript. IMPERIAL RESCRIPT.

"We hereby order, by virtue of Article VII. of the Imperial Constitution, the House of Representatives to dissolve." [Imperial Sign Manual and Privy Seal.]

Countersigned by the Ministers of State. The House of Peers also received the follow-

ing Imperial Rescript :-"We hereby order, by virtue of Article VII. and Article XLIV., paragraph ii., that the House of Peers be prorogued." [Imperial Sign Manual and Privy Seal.]

PLAIN SPEAKING.

Countersigned by the

Ministers of State.

The following is taken from the Jamsi-Jamshed, 25th November:-Sir Henry Blake, the retiring Governor of Hongkong, has felt himself called upon to refend his conduct against the accusations of the newspapers. Reuter says that, replying to a farewell address. presented to him before leaving Hongkong for Ceylon, Sir Henry referred to the press criticisms levelled against his administration, and streamously denied that he had favoured the Chinese at the expense of the Europeans. That such an accusation was ever made is, in itself, a proof that among the European settlers in the Celestial Empire, or at any rate a zectionof them, the sentiments of racial superiority is allowed to run rampant, and such special homage to the white skin is demanded as a thoughtful and discerning Proconsul does not feelhimself justified to accord. From the summary of the passage of his speech, wired by Reuter, it would appear that the new Governor of Ceylon had both a manly and statesmanlike defence to make of his conduct in this respect. He very justly held that "his duty as his Majesty's representative was not to destroy social distinctions nor decrease the respect due to the educated, upright and successful of very race, but to show that under the British flag justice was pure and unpurchasable. while all, from highest to poorest coolie, were free to think, speak and act as they like so long as they obey the laws." Brave words these, doing honour to the man who spoke them and the country he represented. Sir Henry Blake's speech will, we are sure, receive the approval of all thoughtful Englishmen: for they cannot but recognize that in it lies not only the key to the hearts and affections of millions of alien races, who own the sovereignty of Britain, but surest promise of its permanence. It is the policy such as that which Sir Henry declared himself to be subscribing to that has made England great and beloved among Eastern peoples, and not bluster and political injustice; and, for our part, we cannot see, a more hopeful sign for the future of Great Britain than that, in an age of racial bigotry, national prejudices and political narrow-mindedness, there are administrators like Sir lifenry Blake to interpret so correctly their country's message to its distant possessions. Fortunate Ceylon in having a Governor who understands his business and responsibilities so well.

> COINAGE OF GOLD AND SILVER.

The Treasury Department of the United States has given out some coinage facts from which we note the following:

The United States coined in the year 1902, \$80,000,000 in gold and \$71,757,600 in silver. In view of the fact that the United States ... "theoretically" is upon a gold basis, how does it happen that the country can put out \$72,000,oco of silver a year—or within \$ ,o: o,cco of the total comage of gold-and still maintain that silver at a parity with gold?

It will be observed that the difference in the amount of coinage is so slight that a stranger would be willing to swear that the United States was still using gold and silver as " primary money.

Indeed, it was only a few years ago when the learned (?) financial editors of the United States, of the Republican stripe, were bemoaning the fact that there were more than \$400,000,oog in silver then in the country—and scheming how the country could get rid of it. These gentlemen always alluded to silver as "fiat money," or worth I ut "fifty cents on the dollar." It is well to note at this time also, that these

same advocates of a gold standard are now willing to increase the circulating medium by permitting State Banks to issue paper money based on assets that would include products of the farm. In view of the fact that these editors have uniformly "sneered" at silver as money

them that "bar silver" as a commodity in the markets of the world is bringing 59} cents an Thus it would appear that even the "intrinsic value" of a silver dollar is selling for 50 cents in gold, even without the Government's stamp

perhaps it would be well enough to remind

thereon, which makes it worth an hundred And yet these gentlemen would substitute 'paper money"—more promises to pay—which.

when reduced to "intrins c value" would not bring five dollars a care load in the paper rag However, we intended to call attention to

"coin silver" in spite of the offensive oder attached to that metal when used as money. We observe that Mexico, though it coined over \$10,000,000 in gold also coined \$78,000,000 in silver-or \$6,000,000 more than the United

States coined in the same time. Even Canada coined \$5,564,000 against \$10,740,000 of gold-and yet the Canadians affect to despise silver just as much as the gold monometallist of the United States does.

We note that gold-bearing Australia, which pulled out of the earth as much of the yellow metal as Uncle Sam did last year-and a million and a half more—also coined more than \$10,000,000 of silver into money. Austria-Hungary coined \$2,432,000 in silver as against \$2,171,000 in gold.

Of course, Italy, Spain, Greece and the South American countries coined much more silver than gold—barring only Brazil.

Finally, in the world, during the year 1002 all nations coined \$304,000,000 in gold and support the \$200,000,000 in silver—thus making the total roinage of the world in gold and silver for the numility, we year 1902 more than \$505,000,000.—Shanghal

While actual hostilities in the Par Last may be postponed for a con identitle period, opinion in London, as throughout a merica, is that a conflict is inevitable. As delay enables the Russians to add ships and men to their already great force in the danger zone it is thought they will avoid an act of war for the present, but there are signs that they may pursue a course so offensive as to force Japan's hand and make her the actual aggressor. Harper's. Weekly in a ranteresting review of the causes leading to the present tension says, in part The strife between Japan and Russia in the Far East springs from economic causes, and therefore inevitable. In the view of both parties, the actual outbreak of hostilities has been, from the first, only a question of time and preparation. The moving force in apan's case is self-evident; an immense population full of energy and enter, rise, shut up within a - narrow territory. with an area of less than hundred and fifty thousand square miles, Japa has a population of over forty-five millions, a large pa t of which is crowded together with a destiny of from four to five hundred to the square mile. Japan compares accurately with Germany, in b the size and numbers, it Bavaria be left out. As in Germany, the question of a future outlet dominates all others. Korea, separated from Japan by a narrow strait with a. population of perhaps eight millions, spread over eighty thousand square miles, and with great untouched resources, is for Japan Promised Land, the goal of centuries of ambition. Manchuria, with the immense area of three hundred and sixty thousand square miles,

ener y and resources, would make them one of the greatest of nations. After analyzing, the naval strength of both nations, Harper's asumes that Japan would cont of the sea at first, but emphasises her vulnerability as compared with Russia. Defeat would mean annihilation for Japan unless there was interference in her behalf: Japan has the advantage in certain respects. Thus she can land her troops either on the north, the south, or the west of Korea, concentrating all her efforts on whichever point she selects. The Russian fleet cannot so conce strate, as it muto some extent guard both the eastern and western Korean coasts, and is thus of necessity divided. Therefore the preliminary advantage of position is with Japan. Yet against this

we must make two heavy offsets in Rus-

sparsely copied by some eight millions, is

a prospective paradise. The Japanese have,

therefore, dreamed of a great empire, o nearly

half a million square unles, which, with their

sia's favour first, that Japan, having once got her troops landed in Korea, wil have to operate far from her home base, and continually haunted by the problem of keeping open her line of communication and supplies perpetually menaced by the Russian fleet Secondly, Japan is immensely more vulnerable than Russia in case of adverse fate. Russia the real Russia, lies thousands of miles away with Asian deserts and Siberian wastes between; unthinkable remote from all danger o invasion. But not so Japan All her 45 million children, her cities, and resources are open on all sides to attack by the Russian fleet, and invasion for Japan would mean the end of the game. While Japan has certain advantages at the start, she practically risks her whole national life. Russia, though somewhat handicapped by circumstance, has practi cally nothing to lose; nothing that she could not reasonally hope to regain by dint of hard and resolute fighting. The writer says the latest news from the Far East "confirms the belief that the interests of Japan and Russia are essentially irreconcilable by regotiation; and that a reference of them to the arbitrament of war cannot be long averted." -

#### COMMERCIAL.

YARN MARKET REPORT

In their report dated the 18th inst., Messis. Cawasjee, Pallanjee & Co. write: -Since the directions so that difficulties are being exissue of our last circular dated the 4th inst. our yarn market has remained firm in best l and suitable threads owing to the continuance of the telegraphic advices of a stronger tine in Bombay, coupled with a fall in the rate of exchange here. The importers asked for advances in rates on last mail's prices, and the Chin se at first showed less inclinating to operate, hence the first week passed off quite · blank; latterly, foreigners came forward in the market and began to repurchase freely, and the Chinese speculators took advantage of this opportunity and quitted a good lot of their former cheap holdings at best advantage. The prices have advanced from two to five dollars per bale in almost all counts and descriptions, still the prices here compared with those ruling not covering cost. A moderate business is reported in No. 20s in a few of the best and selected threads, others are not inquired for, the dearness of this count has greatly retarded a 6 months' timecharter for native account as business.—Only one thread of No. 16s changed | law as \$5,000 per month. hands at an advance of \$2,-A moderate business is reported in No. 12s in selected threads only.—The continued demand for No. | per ton, whilst rates locally for cargo to Japan tos have made holders firmer who have succeeded in establishing a substantial advance | picul, and at that the supply is exceeding the in prices on last mail's quotations, and this demand. count closes firm with further, buyers. Nas 8s and 6s are not in much request. The market comprise about 1,400 bales of No. 105-350 8th December. -bules of No. 125-25 bales of No. 165-and 225 bales of No. 20s-in all about 2,000 bales. Arrivals per steamers Simla, Capri, Kumsang, Tientsin, Catherine Apar, and Vindobona of about 17,000 bales. Shipments to Shanghai and Coast ports about 9,500 bals. The unsold stock is estimated at about 39,000 bales. No business is reported in Local as well as

Japanese Yarns: Exchange:—We quote to-day on Indian at

Rs. 1274 %. London at Sh. 1/-84d.

FORTNIGHTLY MARKET REPORT.

18th inst.

Cotton.-Market ruled very active and prices have advanced from \$1 at \$1 per picul. Sales are reported of about 900 packages at \$30 to \$34 per picul. The unsold stock is estimated at about 450 bales. Sales of about 35 parkages Stock Nil.

Yarn.—Advices of a stronger tone at Bombay, coupled with a fall in the rate of Enchange stocks, notably Bank shares. The sterling here, made importers firm, hence prices advanced: from two to five dollars per bale on last Mail's quotations. Sales are reported of about 2,000 bales. The unsold stock is estimated at about 39,000 bales. No sales are reported in local

as well as Japanese Yarn. chests at \$960, 18 chests at \$980, 62 chests at | buyers. \$990, 9 chests at \$1,000, 35 chests at \$1,020, 34. chests at \$1,040, 10 chests at \$1,050, and 20 chests at \$1,060, in all about 247 chests. The unsold stock is estimated at about 1,200 chests. Bengal Opium.—A good business is reported.

Persian Opium.-Ruled steady and about 60 chests changed hands at \$600 to \$810 per Valcul. The unsold stock is about 2,000 chests.

and 213 chests at \$1,065 to \$1,085 of Benares

Miscellaneous quotátions:— Ivory ..... \$250 to 650\_\_\_ Borax .... 17 , . . . 9 Olib mum , 7 ,, 25 Cloves ..., 15 H 35 Vermilion , 87

~SILANGHAI SHARE REPORT.

Messrs J. P. Bisset & Co, write in their share report, dated Sha ghai, the 18th instant, as

We have again to report a good business in our principal stocks, Farnham, Languais, and Indo-Chioas but the dealing has been principally caused by the short sellers for December. covering their sales. In Shanghat and Horgkew Whatves we have to report a very considerable rise in rate, the market closin, at the end of last week with sales for March at Tis. 184/195. To-day besi ess has been done for March at Ils. 227 and 225. Business in this stock has been almost entirely confined to forward sales, only a limited bus ness being done for cash. The T. T. rate on London today is 2/4.3/4.

SHIPPING,-Indo-Chinar.-Shares have een placed for December at Tls. 55 and 56. On the 16/17th market weakened slightly resulting in sales at Tls.- 13 and 544. To-day business has been done at : 4 April Shanghai Tugs .--Preference shares have again been placed at

DOCKS & WHARVES .- A considerable bus'ness has been done in Farnhams. The market opened on the 11th with sales at Tls 118 a d 1178 cash 118 120'118 Dec 119/118 Warch, i 1 April and May, 12th at 122g cash. 1.25 December 125, 127 March. 14th 128} cash, 129, 128, 1.27 Dec. 129, 129 March, 130 April, 13th 124 cash, 127, 126 December, 130, 128, 129, 127 March. 128 April. (6th 125 December, 1271, 127 March. 128 Apri'. 17th 126, 12 & December. 127, 127 March 128 April Shanghai & Hongkem Wharves. On the 11th the market opened with cash sales at I ls 195, with sales for March at 195, 195, 1923 and 195. On the 12th March shares a ain fetched 195 14th March shares were placed at Tls 200, and on the 15th at Tls. 207 1. 16th a sale for cash was made at 215 with sales for March at Tls. 215 and 2173. On the 17th December and March shares were placed at Th. 220, and for April at 2223. Today 2:71 March and 225 March are reported Purglere Wharves & Godowas .- Buyers offer 1974 for shares. Sellers at 200.

INDUSTRIAL.—In Cotton stocks a sale of Sov Chees has been made at Tls. 170, and in Lao Kung Mows at Tls. 40, and shares are offering at this rate. Ewos are obtainable at Tls. 37% Shanghai Paper and Pulps have been placed at Tis. 1054, and Shanghai Gas at Tis. 107. Ices at Tls. 14. Maatschappij, &c. in Langkats—The market opened on the 11th with sales at Tls 310/307 cash and 3272 March. tith Marchishares were placed at 330, 14th cash shares were placed at 3:71. March at 330. 15th at 315, 3071, 310, 312 and 315 December Sales at 325 have been done, 3224, 325 and 330 March. 16th 310 cash, 315, 312 and 310 Dec. 3321, 330 and 325 March. 17th 310 and 3121 December, 329, 327 and 330 March, The market closes steady with buyers at 3121 and for March at 330.

Shanghai advices, dated 19th inst. report business done: -Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares at Tis. 2172 for March, Farnham, Boyds at Tls. 127/1274 for December, and 11s. 128 for March. Pulps at Tls. 110 Langkats at Tls, 315 cash, Tls. 315 for December, and Tls. 330 for March.

#### PREIGHT.

In their circular, dated 19th inst., Messrs Lamke and Rogge write:-

The freight market is unchanged, and next to nothing is doing. Boats of the handlest size and the most suitable type continue unemployed for the reason simply that paying freights cannot be produced. Not only do very little business traceable; there is an unusual scarcity of cargo in all the principa perienced also in making up occasional berth car, oes. All this accounts for quite a number

of steamers being laid up. Very few inquiries after tonnage have, been on the market and a very small chartering business only has resulted during the fortnight under review, principally in coal freights, as

From Bongay to Penang at \$2.00 per ton, from Kuchinotzu to Hongay at \$2.00 per ton, from a Southern Japan coal port to Hongkong. at between \$1.65 and \$1.50 per ton. Details of reported fixtures are as per appended list of

settlements. prompt. For the Saigon trade, to commence some time in January, German s.s. Emma at Bombay are not at all satisfactory, and are Luyken about 2,150 tons cargo deadweight capa ity, fitted with all China coast trade requirements and Hongkong Government passenger license supplied by owners, has accepted

> From Quang Chau Wan (Cochin-china) to Kobe, a hoat is reported fixed for salt at 12.50 ports are no better than it to to cents per

Sai ers .- No fresh fixtures have transpired. American back Helen A. Wyman having comcloses firm. Sales during the past fortnight | pleted her loading for New York, sailed on the

British ship Glendeon left in ballast on same date for Anjer, for orders. There are no disengaged sailers in port.

Saraw, bark Vale of Deen arrived from Rajang on 13th instant, but is engaged for a further trip from Rajang under a previous

"Sail-tonnage loading or to load -- for Baltimore and New York :-

For Callao:— Italian bark Lethair to arrive from Callao.

British bark Brilliant, arrived 24th October.

WEEKLY SHARE REPORTS.

Messrs. Erich Georg & Co. write, under date,

Owing to the Christmas holidays, our circular is issued to-day, instead of on Saturday. Since the issue of our last circular only a moderate of best Ningpo are reported at \$35 per picul. | business has been transacted, and rates have not undergone any very material change, a though the political outlook has effected some I demand rate on London is 1s. 8 9/16, while the rates on Shanghai are unchanged, viz, Tis. 71% for a T/ I, and Tls 71% for three days sight Private Bills.

Bank Shares .- A few Hongkong an ! Shanghais sold at \$170, but there are sellers now at Malwa Opium.—A good business transpired. \$65, while the London quotation has dropped Sales: -13 chests at \$9 0, 31 chests at \$ 50, 15 to £63. Nationals have improved to \$31

Marine Insurance Shares. - Unions a e still on offer at \$490, while China Traders have fallen to \$56. Other stocks under this heading

Fire Insurance Shares.—Hongkon,'s are on Sales: -470 chests at \$1,065 to 1,085 of latna, offer at \$310. China's have been done at \$90. and a small lot can be placed now at \$901; a reported. The unsold stock is about 1,225 | sale at \$93 per 31st mil next has been put

> hrough. Shipping Shares kong. Canton and Macao Steamboat survey changed hands in small lots at \$321 to \$311, and a few shares

Manila's have sellers at \$18, and Douglases | at 32, and later at 3 4 xd. are offering at \$30. Star Ferries sold at \$30 for old, while new shares are quoted \$19. Shell Transports sold at 224, 6d, to 238, closing with sellers at latter rate.

Refineries,--China Sugars have been done at \$105. \$104, \$103 and \$104, clo i g with sellers at \$105. Luzous unchanged. Mining hares - Unchanged.

Hocks Wharves and Godowns.-Hongvorn and Whampoa Dock Company shares sold at \$274 to \$207, and shat s could publishe What and Godown Co. shares improved to hulk in Penang. \$98, but this rise was not maintained, and the market closes with sellers at \$97. Amoy Docks are unchanged. Farnhams are weaker in the north and the closing quotation is sellers at Tis. 1173'ex the interim dividend of Tis. 5 per share paid on 22nd instant. Shanghai and Hong lew Whatves have receded to Tls. 215.

Linds, Hotels, and Buildings - Hongkong and Investment and Agency Co. shares, after improving to sales at \$158, are on the market at \$157 Kowloon Lands unchanged, and so are West Points. Hongkong Hotels have been fixed at \$148, closing with sellers at that rate. Humphreys have buyers at \$t at

Cotton Mills -- Unchanged in values The Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Compa y paid the dividend of 11s. 4 per share on 22nd instant, which accounts for the drop in the rate

· Miscellancous. — Green Islands sold at \$245 and \$25, and have sellers at lotter rate. Chin-Borneos have improved to tuyers at \$85. Matsons sold and are wanted at \$144. Fenwicks fetched \$49, and at that fiture there are buvers. Transways are quoted \$300 ex the dividend of \$10 per share paid to-day., China Providents have been fixed at \$9\. Langkats, aftersales at TIs. 312 cash and TIs. 327 per 35th April, are weaker in the north and quoted

In their report, dated 24th inst., Messrs. Benjamin, Kelly and Pott, write:--

To-morrow being Christmas Day, we are ssuing our circular one day earlier than usual. During the period under notice, transactions put through have been few and far, between and call for no special comment, beyond the fact that Langkats and Farnhams have weakened settlement there which is reported to be a beavy one. We take the opportunity of wishing our constituents, one and all, a very Happy

Banks.--Hongkong and Shanghai Panks are weaker, no doubt due to the critical state of political affairs in the North, and we make the closing quotation \$565. The sterling price in London has further declined to £63 Nationals have appreciated and are in request

Marine Insurances.—Unions have been fixed at \$190 and more shares are offering, otherwise there is no business to report in stocks under

this head. Fire Insurances. Thoughous Fires keep steady at \$310, while China Fires have risen to \$90 at which rate shares are in demand.

Shipping.— 'ongkong, Canton and Macad Steamboats have been disposed of at \$12 and now close at \$311. Indo-Chinas are quiet at \$76. Star Feries (old) have been the medium of business at \$10: the new shares are sleady at-\$19. Shell Transports have declared an interim dividend of one shilling per share for 1903, and on the strength of this news the stock has firmed, and there are induiries for shares after sales at  $\mathcal{L}_1$  : 1/6. Other stocks in this section are unchanged at last week's quo

Refineries.—China Sugars have eased off and are on offer at \$105.

Mining.—There is absolutely nothing doing rates rule disastrously low, but there is anyhow | locally. Punjoins have fallen to \$1 and Raubs to \$1. Chinese Engineeri g continue in demand in Shanghai at Tis 6.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns .- The weak ness in Hongkong and Whampoa Docks recorded in our last issue has disappeared and shares are now inquired for at \$208. Farnhams have not maintained their position and sales are reported from the North at Uls. 117 ex the interim dividend of Tls 5 paid on the 22nd instant Kowloon Wharves are to be had at \$97. Hongkew Wharves have been parted with in Shanghat at Tls. 215.

Lands, Hotels and Buildings.-Hongkong Lands have changed hands at \$1571 closing. with sellers at \$157. Shanghai Lands have advanced to Tls. 105 at which rate sales have been effected. Hongkong Hotels have again From the rice ports nothing is doing for found buyers at \$148. Humphreys' Estate are are in strong demand at \$11, but there are no shares coming out. China Providents have been negotiated at 191

Cotton Mills.— Ewos can be obtained at Tls. | institutions. 34 ex the dividend of Tls. 4 paid in Shanghai on the 22nd instant. Quotations for the other Mills are unaltered.

Cigar Companies.—Sumatras have been booked at Tls. 52. Miscellaneous .- Green Island Coments have changed hands at \$25. China Borneos are wanted at \$ \{\frac{1}{2} \quad A. S. Watsons can be placed at Stal. Geo. Ferwicks have been done at the further enhanced rate of \$49, and, are still inquired for. William Powells have buyers at \$9. We make Tramways \$ 100 ex the dividend of \$10 due to-day, . Owing to forced sales for the settlement in Shanghai, Langkats have suffered a decline in value, and transactions as Tls. 305 have taken place.

#### FINANCIAL NOTES.

"Finance" writes to the S. F. Press on the 10th inst.:—Since our last Note, Ex hange has | Co. put in a tender as well? falles one penny, and the price of silver two pence per ounce; this leaves the ratio out of order, for whereas on the 23rd ult. the ratio was about correct, since this last fall in silver, rates of exchange have not yet moved in parity, and have another three or four sixteenths to fall to nut them on equal terms. If no steadiness or upward tender cy therefo e is displayed in the near future we may look for a further decline in the rate. Four months rate at closing is . 1/9 3/8ths. I his recurrence of the violent fluctuations i

silver is naturally most trying to business and commerce, more especially as the tendency is again downward, thereby involving the greater part of the commercial community in loss in importing, for it is always difficult to get prices adjusted when the fall is so sudden and fast. it is greatly to be regretted that in August Inst. when exchange was up in the neighbourhood of the two shilling mark, the Government could not see their way to decide on fixity at two shillings. There were not of course a sufficient quantity of the new Straits Dollars in | tion, there being no rest house." the Settlements, but after the steadiness which the neighbourhood of 1/11 and 2/- it is most

in a margin of 10%. tions than usual, although of course it cannot Chronicle,

ase for sale at \$311. Indo China's, after ad; | he put down to the rain. These have taken | 1111 King has not be a advised to exercise his | Saltpetre Stel to 11 -vancing to \$77, with a rise in the North to Tla, place in biley largreaves at 207, in power of disallowance with respect to Ordin | the Lappa Customs, is going officially to the St. & 56 have gone back to \$76, the latest quotation | Belats, a fair y new tin Mine in Pahang, at 11 | ance No. 16 of 1903, repealing the Water-works from the North being Tls. 54%. Clina and and 114, in Bersawahs at 16, in Straits Traders

#### LOCAL AND GENERAL

THE layest report, concerning Sir Frank Swettenham, tays the Malor Mal, is that he will return to the Straits for a further period of

It is reported that the s.s. Saladin, which has been dismasted, is to be towed to Penang Ly. placed now at \$208. Hougkong and Kowloon | the s.s. Hyson. She will be used as a tobacco

> THE name of Mr. offred Wright has been added to the list of authorised architects under section 7 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903.

THE Hamburg-American Line's s. s. Syrta, with a relief transport, for the German Navy, stationed in the East, left Co ombo on the 221 d inst. p.m. tot ...ongkong direct.

billiards at Taiping. In a match a ainst Mr Cumming at the New Club, he won casily after conced ag his opponent 750 in 1,000.

Admiral Yamamoto, Minister of the Navy, on the 14th inst. and subsequently saw Admiral Ito, Chief of the Naval Staff Office.

THE following appointment has been made at

BARON Kodama had a long interview with

the Admiralty:—Engineer Commander J. E. D. Hongkong Reserve, to date Nov. 10. H. E. THE a fficer Administering the Goverment has appointed Mr. A. G. M. Fletcher.

cadet, to act as assistant Registrar General,

with effect from and including the 10th instant.

GNR. L. C. Rees and Gnr. A. J. Darby made the best scores in the December carbine competition, held on the Tai Hang range yesterday, the former securing 86, and the later 81

THE Sin Wan Pag is advised that the Board of Commerce is at present occupied in dealing with the question of weights and measures with in hanghai, probably owing to the approaching I the object of making them uniterm throughout the Empire.

THE Acting Colonial Secretary has on Tuesday received a relegram from His Britannic Majesty's Consulat Batavia to the effect that quarantine against arrivals from Hongkong has been removed.

CAPTAIN E. Barnardiston, R. E., execuive engineer, North-Western Railway, India, bas been selected as engineer for a Railway Syndicate in China. He is said to be an officer of exceptional ability.

II.E. THE Officer Administering the Government has given his assent, in the name and on behalf of the King, to the ardinance to amend The Public Pealth and Buildings Ordinance, | 1903, (No. 1 of 1903).

FOLLOWING the recent discovery of a submerged wreck in Barkeley Sound, British Columbia. supposed to be that of the lost British, warship Condor, the tritish cruiser Grafton has been ordered to make investigations.

THE C N: steamer Paoling upon arriving at Shanghai from Swatow, reported having sighted N. 3 W. 53 miles off Turnabout a large junk, with bow 6 feet above water, having been sunk by collision. Dangerous to navigation.

H.E. THE "fficer Administering the Government has been pleased to withdraw the Proclamation, No. 8 of the 3rd oltimo, declaring Nagasaki to be a port or place at which an infectious or contagious disease prevails.

THE Officer Administering the Government has, with the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, appointed Mr. J. H. Kemp, to be assistant secretary to the Sanitary Board, with effect on and from the 1st of January, 1904.

H. E. the Governor has given his assent, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty the King, to the Ordinance repealing the New Territories Titles Ordinance, 1902, and the Ordinance to further amend the New Territories Land Court

As a rule, the exportation of rice in Canton is prohib ted. Owing to the financial conditions, the local authorities there showed a relaxation of the rule, and this has met with much opposition from the five well-known benevolent

IT is learnt that Prince Pu Lun, China's Commissioner to the St. Louis Exhibition, will leave Peking by the beginning of the 11th Moon (the next few days) for Shanghai whence he will proceed to the United States by one of the mail steamship lines.

IN the fifth race in the champion class, in connection with the Royal Yacht Club on Saturday, Vernon came in first, Elspeth second, and Releen third. The fifth race of the one-design class was sailed yesterday and resulted in a win for Kathleen.

MR. Kawasaki, vice-president of the Kawasaki Dockyard Co. and Mr. Yasumoto of the same company, are at Bangkok at present, negotiating for the construction of a yacht for the Siamese Crown Prince. Might not the Hongkong Dock

GOVERNOR Taft of Manila, who has been appointed the Secretary of War of the United States, will arrive in Hongkong in time to 26th. The Governor arrives with his family and staff, and will accupy suites on the big | Lungchow, Mentze, Sze-}.

MEMBERS of the Wigwam Larn Tennis Club dined at the Hongkong Hotel on aturday evening under the presidency of Mr. F. R Smith. A very pleasant time was spent, and a capital musical programme was sustained by well-known vocalists. There were 58 gentle-

A CORRESPONDENT writes to our Tients in cors respondent, from beyond the Wall, "The Liao the day time by dodging the loose ice. A samexperienced by passengers to and from the other side is the absence of any accommoda-

Consolidation Ordinance, 1902, and providing for and regulating the water supply in Hongkong, and for the maintenance and repair of the works' a connection therewitt...

CAPT. Outerbridge, of the s. s. Sunkiang, from Manila, reports that at 4.30 a.m. on the 17th inst, when 20 miles to the S. S. W. of Hermana Mayor Island, he spoke the U ited States coast guard steamer Mindonao, which had lost he propellor. As the vessel required no assistance he came on to Hongkony.

TIENTSIN sends to the Asahi Shimbun a statement that the Russians in Thibet are building forts to oppose the progress of the British expedition and are moving a torce military horizon would be very remarkable.

A LETTER in the P. & T. Times a few days | an accident, which might have had terrible and drew attention to serious inconvenience caused some British travellers home via Siberia in consequence of their passports not being wrage. property vised, and not stiting clearly that MR. John Roberts has again been playing they were travellers out of as well as mio Russia, The omissi n cost them Lio as well as delay.

> THE Tung Wen His Pao learns that recently, there was a fight between the Covernment troops and the Kuangsi rebels numbering over three hundred. On the 3rd of this Moon th city gate of Liu-Chou was closed, and a thorough search was made for rebels, resulting | issued granting h s request and appointing Ko in the capture of about a hundred, and on the Funk-shih to take sole charge of the military next day these were decapitated.

Grah in, to the Tamer, for the Wav. rn, and DR. Middleton and Mr. Innes, the Commis- IN a paper on a journey in Sumatra, Travel sioners appointed by the Government to inquire into the alleged irregularities in the administration of St. John's Island, and the conditions which obtain or obtained in connection with coolies quarantined, left to-day for Penang where they commence their inquiries, says the Strait Times of 11th inst.

> Notice is given in the Guzette that a coaling and yield so bright a light that it is quite wharf is about to be erected in front of Kowloon Marine 1 of No. 35 (late the Coal confined under a glass, ttriquette Works). While the work is in progress, all vessels are advised to give the spot THE fine new vessel for the Nippon Yusen a wide borth, as rubble will be dumped in the Harbour to form a foundation for the wharf, forming an obstruction in the vicinity.

> A SPECIAL wire printed in the Kobe Chronicle | owners. The speed she attained over the states that Herr von Brandt, formerly German I measured mile was 17.76 knots, and this was Minister at Peking, writing in the Neue Field easily maintained. The Nikko-maru will be. Presse, comments on the indecisi n apparent formally, handed over to the Nippon Yusen in Russia's Far Eastern policy. He expresses | Raisha about the end of this month, and will the opinion that Japan is better prepared and be taken up to Yokohama. From that port better equipped for war than Russia, and she will make her maiden trip to Australia, criticises the masterly inactivity of the English | sailing about the middle of January. The Government.

> courteous'y informs us that ships or vessels | Kwanclee, outward-bound from Shanghai to arriving in Netherlands-India from Hongkong, Hongkong, and the I.-C. S. Eldorado collided are not longer subject to quarantine, the poit in the river opposite the Old Dock. The of Hongkong being declared to be not longer | Kruanglee was able to proceed on her voyage infected with plague. The prohibition of importation of some articles is also concelled a small hole in her port bow. The Eldorado so that all goods can now be imported into Netherlands-India.

> steamer Koningin Regentes in Banka Straits, Weir, maring superintendent of the C M. S. when plying on the Java-Sing spore-Sabang. N. C. was on board the Kavanglee at the time Holland run, has aroused sharp comment. The of the accident en route to Hongkong. trend of opinion is that the Company, before venturing into new waters, should have profited by the experience gained by its competitors, and should have gone more warily to work with its steamers.

> THE Tung Wen Hu Pao hears that recently Russia, a recent letter from the capital reports the gentry class of Kiangsi held a meeting that replies have been received by the Grand mongst themselves to discuss methods of pro- Council from the high authorities of the followcedure regarding the mining affairs of that ing provinces:-Liangkiang (consisting of three province. During that meeting a resolution | provinces), Min-Chê (two provinces), Kwangwas passed, and this resolution was eventually | tung, Hunan, Shantung, Shansi, Szechuan, sent in to Governor Hya who promptly took | Shensi, and Hukuang (two provinces), and up the matter in hand intending to memorialize | that the total number of first-class troops from the Throne on the subject.

By the courtesy, and with the permission of the Hor. W. Chatham, Director of Public- Works, we give to our readers, in a special supplement with this issue, a half-tone illustration of the west elevation of the proposed new Law Courts of Hongkong, as designed by the well-known architects to the Colonial Office, Messrs. Aston Webb and E. Ingress Bell, of 19, Queen's Anne's Gate, London.

It is notified in the Gazette that the Secretary of State for the Colonies has intimated to H.E. the Officer Administering the Government that His Majesty the King has approved of the appointment of the Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson as an Official Member of the Executive Council. and also of the appointment of the Hon. Basil R. II. Taylor as an Official Member of the Legi lative Council for so long as he acts in the office of Harbour Master.

THE usual tables are given, in the journal of the American Asiatic Association, showing the values of the principal exports from the U.S. t China and Hongkong in the first nine months of 1922 and 1903, in gold dollars as follows:-Mineral Wheat Cotton flour.

1902...... 13,596,844 135,142 2,164,775 1, 186, 307 8,102,537 144,559 1903..... To Hongkong. 2,802,574 21,034 770,176 760,248

WE 'N. C. D. News) have to thank the Statistical of models of native huts, and an old cannon. Department of the Customs for a copy of the Eustoms Gazette, July-September, 1903. ju published. The comparative figures of the revenue for the quarter are as under, in Haikuar raels:—

Kowloon and Lappa...... 170,834 mao, & Tengyueh.....

The revenue collected in Shanghai amounted to Hk. Tls 2,199,668 against Tls. 2,716,151 there being a falling-off in import dues alone of 114, Tls. 600,000.

An alleged theft of \$ 90 on board the Apenral

has just been inquired into at Singapore. On the morning of Nov. 25th two passengers re-River sti lopen, that is sampans can cross during | ported the loss of money amounting to \$200. These men, with seven others, occupied a pan now costs \$5 however. The chief difficulty | corner on the deck under the companion ladder. The supercargo had the boxes of all these brought out and before opening them asked how much money each contained. One said he had \$48 and this proved to be the case. prevailed right away from July to October in A NAGASAKI merchant who recently purchased Another said he had \$27, then \$10, but when his the sunken steamer Tsuruhiko-maru, which box was opened, it was found to contain disturbing to again be totally in the dark as to | foundered with the loss of many lives off Goto | \$227.21 in four rolls of \$50. each and 20 loose what your imports are going to cost you, with. Island, rear Nagasaki, in October 1901, has dollars. The money was so placed that the commenced breaking up the steamer. The clothes had to be taken out separately to dis-If one were writing a review of the home | merchant has already raised sufficient in hull | cover it. A cheque for \$316 which was found share market under similar conditions as have | plates and cargo to cover the price paid for the | in one of the box-s made the case a very comprevailed here during the last forthight, you | steamer (Y2006), which at the time she runk | picated one. The Court came to the conwould probably read that owing to the rainy carried two locometive engines and a large clusion that the theft had been committed and and unsettled wea her, business has been slow amount of chopped silver yen, in addition to sentenced the two defendants to a year each: and things are flit," but strange to say the last general cargo. The vessel was abandoned by A more complicated case has seldom been fortnight, if anything, has seen more transact, the company with which it was insured.—Kope before the police magistrates, remarks the Straits Times.

S.Mr. F. Carl, who was recently in charge of Louis Exposition, Mr. H. B. Morse, Commissoner at Canton, will replace him as Statistical Secretary, and will himself be succeeded at Canton by Mr. Inchael de Luca, who has recently returned from leave.

ON the 15th inst. at 6 p.m. the str. Tahung Araru collided with and sank a loaded sixtyton cargo-boat, near the New Dock, Shanghai, While the luhung More was coming up the river, her steering-gear became jammed and she ran into the cargo-boat which was lying alongside the str. Aragonia. The damage sustained is not known, as the boat sank a few seconds after being struck.

AN attempt was lately made to wreck the train running from " siphong to Hanoi. During the westward with the same object. If this news | night come natives removed the rails on one were credible, the expansion of Russia's side of the track, for a distance of several yards, This was fortunately discovered an hour or so before the first train passed the spot, and consequences, was averted. The police active y searching for the authors of the out-

> IN order to avoid conflict of authority, Vicerny Tsen Chun-hsu n of Liang Kwang memorialized the thro e sometime ago asking that the military command in Kwangsi be vested solely in Governor Ko. Leng-shih of that Province. As no reply was given by the Throne to his application, the Viceroy again memorialized, to the same effect and an edict has now been campaign in Kwangsi .- Ex.

says that scorpions, centipedes, and mosquiocs are most familiar to the European solourner in the land, while one of the chief annoyances met with in the bush is a small leech, which drops off the dew-laden leaves as he passes in the cool of morning, and exacts a heavy toll from ankles, legs, and any exposed part of the body. Fireflies flit among the trees at night, possible to read by the glow of two or three

Kaisha, the Nikko-marn, was taken out for a trial trip on Thursday with results which are at once a credit to her builders, the Mitsu Bishi Co. and a source of satisfaction to her fitting of the vessel is proceeding apace.

THE Consul-General for the Netherlands ON the 17th inst. at about 11 a.m., the C. M. Swithout delay, being only slightly damaged by had just arrived from Chefoo and was preparing to drop anchor at the time of the accident, the Kwanglie striking her near the bow and THE stranding of the Netherland Company's stripping her side for some distance. Mr. T.

> WITH reference to the secret orders promulgate. ed by the Throne to the various Viceroys and Governors of provinces to report how many modern-armed and disciplined troops could be sent up to leking in the event of war with the above provinces ready to go up to the North aggregates 90,000 men.—N. C. D.

> DURING last month, the Government Mint at Osaka turned out Yen 3,210,000 of 10-yen gold and Yen 91,000 of 50-sen silver, while Yen 2,210,350 of 10-yen gold and Yen 92,000 of 50-sen silver were delivered to the Central authorities. The total values of the coins struck and delivered by the Osaka Mint in the eleven months just ended are as follows:---

Struck. Delivered. Yen. 10 yen gold .......26,693,000 23,246,308 50 sen silver ....... 749,500 742,000 Total... ... -. 27,439,500 24,688,308

The receipts of gold bullion by the Mint for

last month amounted to 2,280 lbs. ROUGH weather is again being experienced in the China Sea, and shipping is being delayed. Most of the incoming steamers report the prevalence of strong winds and high seas, and in several instances slight damage has been caused. The s.s. Indrasamba, which came in from Marila on Thursday, experienced storms, Capt. Craven reporting that, after leaving the Philippines, the deck cargo, consisting of hamboos, got adrift, and considerable difficulty was experienced in securing lashings. The bamboos, of which there are 20,000 odd bundles, are destined for the St. Louis Exposition, where they will be utilised for the purpose of building

THE following telegraphic information dated 16 h inst has been received from the Sumatra Director and Manager of the Maatschappy tot Mijn- Bosch- en Landbouwexploitatie in Langkat, I d.:-

huts, etc. The cargo also includes a number

Daily aggregate output of Crude Petraleum ..... 79,000 Crude Petroleum in Tanks at date ..... 260,000

Cases. Kerosene made since the date of the preceding a-monthly telegram ... 69, ro Kerosene shipped since the date of the preceding half-monthly telegram 779,000 Kerosene in Stock at Refinery at date 54 oco

AT the Wellington Barracks on 19th instant, an excellent entertainment was given to a large house by members of the Royal Engineers Variety Club. A first-rate programme was drawn up, the items including comic songs and sketches by Messrs. Burnett and Dockree keeping the audience in toars of laughter. In addition to a grama hone selection, a laughable sketch entitled An Amateur Curite was produced and was certainly the "hit" of the evening. In-night another entertainment will be given, for which an entire change of programme is announced. It will conclude with a Janghable comedy, in one act, entitled Wilful Murder. Judging by the success of Saturday's entertainment, a rush to secure. sents may be expected this evening.

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